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OF  
MRS. ELIZABETH HARVARD,

LATE OF THE  
WESLEYAN MISSION

TO  
CEYLON AND INDIA:

WITH EXTRACTS FROM HER DIARY AND CORRESPONDENCE.

---

BY HER HUSBAND.

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"She hath done what she could. This also that she hath done  
shall be spoken of for a memorial of her."—Mark xiv. 9.

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THIRD EDITION.

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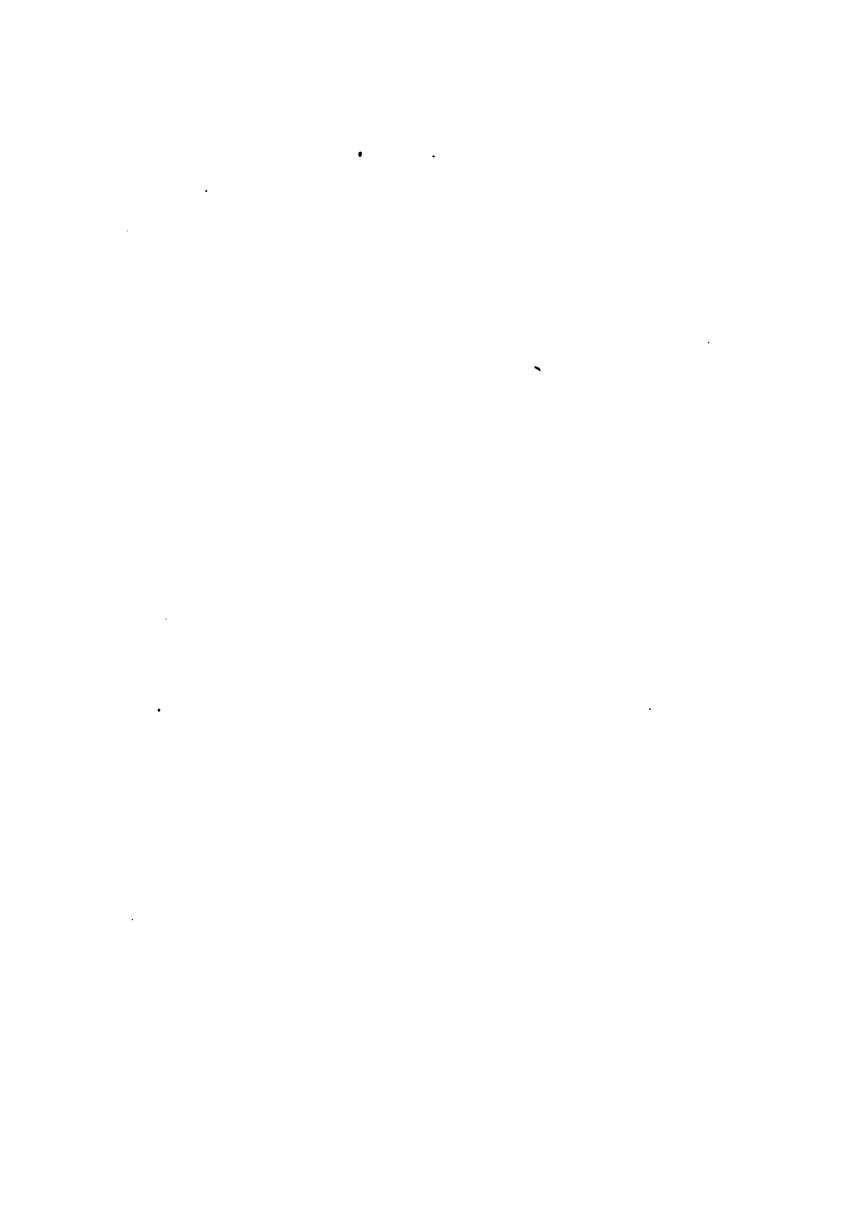
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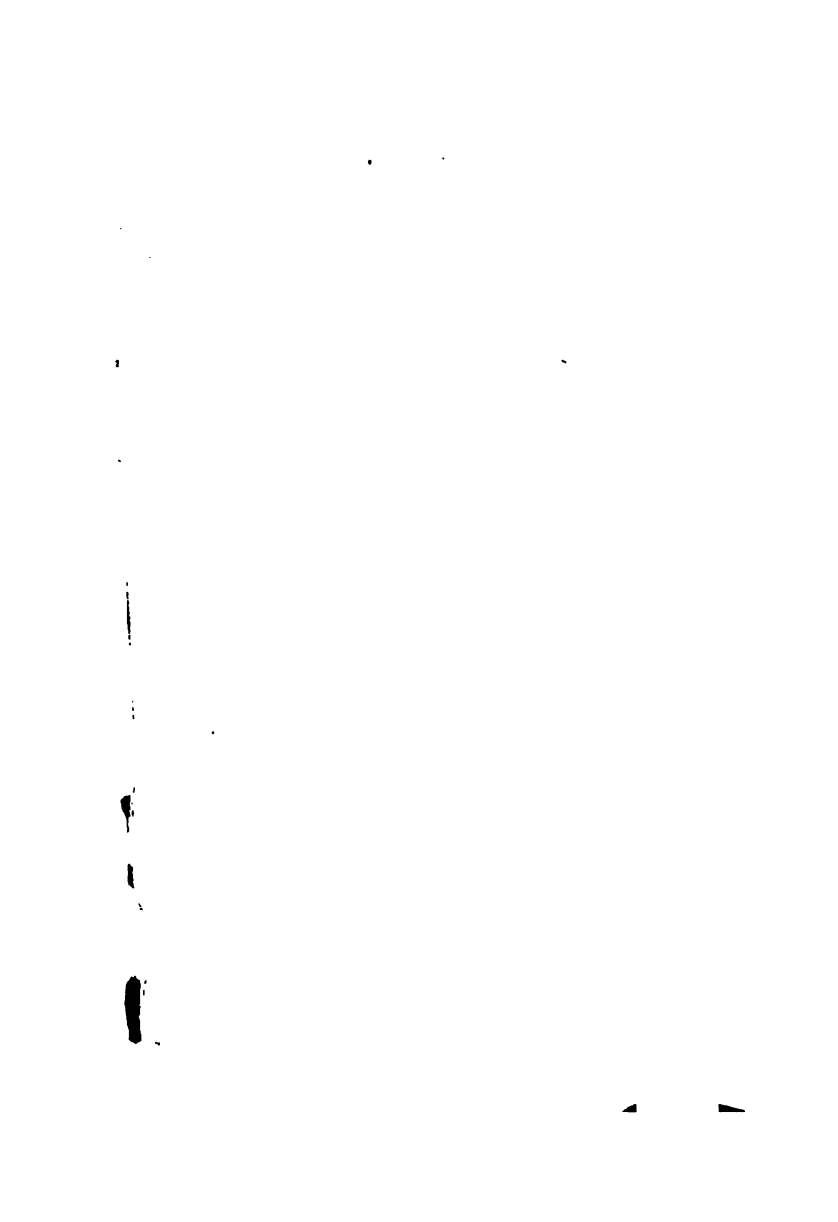




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MEMOIRS

MRS. ELIZABETH HARVARD,

WHILE IN RESIDENCE

CEYLON AND INDIA.

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS FROM HER DIARY AND JOURNAL OF TRAVEL.

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LONDON :

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AND 66, PATERNOSTER-ROW.

1833.

93.







*Ely Harvard*

MEMOIRS

MRS. ELIZABETH HARVARD,

WIDOW OF

CEYLON AND INDIA.

WITH EXTRACTS FROM HER JOURNAL AND CORRESPONDENCE.

BY

THE EDITOR OF THE MEMOIRS OF THE LATE MRS. HARVARD.

THIRD EDITION.

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AND 66, PATERNOSTER-ROW.

1833.

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[ENTERED AT STATIONERS'-HALL.]



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# MEMOIRS.

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## PART I.

FROM HER BIRTH TO HER EMBARKING IN THE  
MISSION TO INDIA.

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“And that from a child thou hast known the holy Scriptures; which are able to make thee wise unto salvation, through faith which is in Christ Jesus.”—ST. PAUL.

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Mrs. ELIZABETH HARVARD was born November 3d, 1788, at Sittingbourne, near Rochester, in the county of Kent, and was baptized there, in the parish church, on the 30th of the same month. Her family name was Parks. At this period, her parents were but Christians in name,—unconverted, unrenewed, unenlightened; and, being themselves ignorant of the way of life and salvation, were unprepared for the great duty of training up their children in the way they should go. But in great mercy to themselves and family, they were both, during her infancy, brought to a saving experience of vital religion.

Mrs. Parks was removed, in the year 1799, by a lingering consumption. She was an Israelite indeed, in whom was no guile; cultivating and living in the lovely spirit of Christianity.

nessing a good confession to the very end of life ; and then calmly and confidently committing her husband and eight young children to the care and protection of her faithful Creator. And that gracious Providence in which she had trusted, raised up a pious and tender mother, by their father's second marriage, and a kind and helpful fellow-traveller with him in the road to the heavenly Zion. Some of the family have already entered into rest ; and others are now inquiring their way with their faces thitherward. Mr. Parks died, happy in God, in June, 1827. May the Lord grant that none may be wanting in the day when He shall make up his jewels ! Amen.

The conversion of Mrs. Harvard's parents made their family what with propriety might be termed a religious family. Within their domestic circle the Sabbath was respected, revered, and kept holy ; the public ordinances of God were observed ; his divine authority upheld in holy habits of life ; and an altar erected, around which every member was required to assemble, morning and evening. At those seasons of family exercise, Mr. Parks regularly read the sacred Scriptures ; and instead of requesting " a short psalm," as the phrase is, (too often an apology for unbecomingly slighting that most important duty,) his wife would aim at preserving decorum among her little ones, while their father, in addition to the simple reading of the word, endeavoured, by an occasional exposition, to render it the better understood and remembered. This was generally succeeded by a short hymn, in which all the children united ; and that again by that kind of devout prayer, which our heavenly Father never hears in vain.

Tedious, and intrusive on the common duties of life, as such a daily observance might be supposed to prove; by habitual piety, and prudent foresight and contrivance, it was prevented from becoming either the one or the other. "Diligent in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord," was the family motto; and Mr. Parks was one of the many who have experimentally proved that "godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life which now is, and of that which is to come."

Few duties are attended with more difficulties than those connected with family religion; few liable to greater discouragements; few more uniformly opposed, and, as far as may be, neutralized and counteracted by Satan, and all human spirits in his unholy alliance. Nor should this be considered as any matter of surprise. Family religion is perhaps the strongest bulwark which a parent can raise in defence of the immortal interests of his children!\* In addition to the moral impression they derive from it while under the paternal roof, it is one of the most undying proofs which a parent can bequeath to his offspring, that religion is the one thing needful, and that he himself considers it to be such. It is a species of evidence in favour of our most holy religion, which will of course be more or less powerful according to the general character of the parent. But a living Christianity, interwoven with their earliest recollections, can never be forgotten by the children, neither in this world, nor in the world to come.

\* Prov. xxii. 6; Eph. vi. 4; Gen. xviii. 19.

Some children indeed, thus favoured, may, and will have to heap eternal blame upon themselves, that through their variously modified depravity, this elevation of privilege has only conduced to the weight of their responsibility, and the depth of their destruction : yet thousands more noble, on earth and in heaven, at this very moment bless and adore the God of their fathers for so goodly a heritage, and for the favourable influence which they have found a religious education and discipline to have had both on their temporal comfort and their eternal destiny. Of this happy number was the subject of this memoir. But it may be satisfactory that her own pen should be permitted to unfold the steps by which she was brought to a saving knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus.

“ I can remember that at a very early period the Spirit of God strove with me. My father constantly attended to the Christian duty of reading and expounding the holy Scriptures in his family. For this I shall ever have reason to bless God.

“ When about eight years of age, I was greatly affected while hearing my dear father read the ninth Psalm. The seventeenth verse especially struck me ; and I was filled with amazement at the awful condition into which I then saw I had been brought by my childish thoughtlessness and folly. ‘ The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.’ I knew I had often forgotten God ; and heartily longed that I might forget him no more.

“ At that time I had not a clear understanding of the way in which the guilt of my past sins might be removed. I resolved, however, to be more

attentive to the concerns of my soul in future; and to endeavour to cherish in my heart, more frequently, devout recollections of God and heavenly things. I remember it occurred to my mind, that if I thought of Him once a day, it would be enough. But this did not satisfy me. I felt, to my constant uneasiness and dread, that my foolish heart was prone to forget and to wander from God; and was often led to fear, lest, after all my advantages, I should be at last turned into hell, with all the nations that forget God.

“But alas! these powerful and salutary convictions wore off. I again forgot God and my own soul; and through the dissipation of childish vanities, continued in that state of mind until I was full eleven years of age; when it pleased God, by a rapid consumption, to remove from this world my most tender and affectionate mother; leaving eight children (and six of them younger than myself) to mourn her loss.

“My dear mother died exceedingly happy; triumphing in God, and professing the fullest assurance of a glorious resurrection. During her last illness I was very much with her; and frequently neither the nurse nor my father could prevail on me to leave the room. Sometimes I was employed in reading to her; when she used to talk most sweetly to me respecting the interests of my soul, entreating me to seek the Lord in my youth, and not to defer it to a death-bed. ‘Health,’ she would say, ‘is the time to seek the Lord.’

“After her death, the nurse, who was a religious person, told me my dear mother was ‘gone to glory;’ and in reply to my anxious inquiries,

endeavoured to describe to me that glorious heaven to which she had been removed. This made me earnestly wish to follow her there. But the thought, 'I am not fit for glory,' thrilled through my heart, and filled me with unspeakable distress. I begged of the nurse to instruct me in the way of being made meet for this happy state; and when she told me to seek the Lord by prayer, the dying advice and cautions of my departed parent were brought afresh to my mind: and the Good Spirit striving with me again, I saw more fully my danger as a sinner; my unhappiness increasing so much that I knew not what to do.

"My dear father perceiving my uneasiness, inquired one day into the cause of it. (Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless his holy name!) On my informing him, with tears, that I felt I was a poor lost sinner, he expressed the pleasure it gave him to find my trouble arising from that cause, and endeavoured to lead my soul to the Saviour. From that time he seemed ever to have his eye on my soul's welfare. Often has he embraced opportunities of conversing with me, and encouraging me, when I have happened to be alone with him. And I know I shall have cause to all eternity to bless the name of the Lord for such a parent. But it was not only for myself that I felt concerned: the eternal interests of my beloved brothers and sisters lay very near my heart. I could not but tenderly love them, even for the sake of my dear and lamented mother; knowing how greatly we were all loved by her.

"After twelve months, my serious impressions *were in some measure counteracted, if not effaced,*

by the company and pursuits of my early associates : and then I thought, as I was still but very young, I would be as others of my own age a little longer ; at all events, until I should be fifteen ; when it was my decided purpose heartily to enter on the service of God. My childish heart was ignorant of Satan's devices. Though this procrastination caused me to relax in some of my secret duties of self-examination and prayer, I continued to attend to public and family exercises of religious worship ; and was unable, after all, to avoid being sometimes very unhappy on account of my sins. But yet it was a very plausible plea, by which the vile enemy of souls kept my heart from God, and by the influence of which many a good impression was dismissed and referred to a more convenient season. O, the long forbearance of God with me ! Had I died in that state, without doubt I should have been lost to all eternity. That servant which knew his lord's will, and did it not, shall be beaten with many stripes !

“ Arriving at the prescribed age of fifteen, on my birth-day my procrastinating promise was brought with a peculiar force to my mind ; my convictions of sin and danger became stronger than ever ; and though I cannot say that I was at that time fully converted to God, yet by the gracious influences of the ever-blessed Spirit, I was then brought again to return to the Lord, never more, I trust, to wander from him. Retiring into an apartment alone, I humbly and penitently bemoaned my past levity ; and solemnly begged of God, that for the sake of Jesus Christ, he would help me to seek him in earnest.



“ By the grace of God I was now enabled to read the Bible with more seriousness and holy determination ; and I hope with more self-application and profit. The Olney Hymns were rendered useful, and were very familiar to my mind ; and I derived great pleasure from reading the memoirs of pious characters, whose holy and useful lives have been closed by happy and triumphant deaths. It pleased the Lord, however, to make me more and more sensible of the vileness and depravity of my fallen nature ; and not to suffer me to find any lasting comfort in any thing short of the light of his countenance. To me he was long an unknown God ; whom I desired to love, but whom I could only fear. My sense of endless danger has been so alarming, that I have been fearful of sleeping at night, lest I should, by the just judgment of God, be made to close my eyes to wake no more ! And though I was unable to account for it, yet I could not feel freedom of mind to mention the particulars of my unhappiness to any one.

“ I now plainly see that my backwardness to give information of my case was an artifice of the great enemy of my soul, by which it was his aim to have hindered me, if possible, from making my escape from his fatal snares. How happy would it have made my ever-dear father to have been made my spiritual confidant at this interesting period ! and how helpful it might have been to myself to have had him to accompany me to the throne of grace, while longing for mercy and grace to help in that time of need ! ”

In this artless review of what she esteemed to

be the "rise and progress of religion" in her soul, which was written simply for the private perusal of a friend who had requested the interesting particulars, (certainly not with the most distant idea of publicity,) Miss Parks has enabled us to judge of the agreement of her experience with the Bible standard. Perhaps there are but few points in which it differs from that of thousands, who, with her, have been favoured with the invaluable privilege of a religious education.

Though she had been preserved from those follies and immoralities which have been the occasion of destruction to so many, she nevertheless found and felt that she was a descendant of fallen Adam; that she was by nature a child of wrath even as others; that her heart was evil, in departing from the living God; that it was, on the undeniable authority of the Scripture, deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; and that, in too many instances, she had followed the devices and desires of such a heart. It was these convictions which armed death with its sting, and enshrouded the grave with its terrors. She was dreadfully afraid of dying, because scripturally unfit for heaven; and could but feebly hope for glory, because not fully changed by grace.\*

\* It may be useful to observe, that a saving acceptance of Christ, through the influence of the Holy Spirit, produces a two-fold change in the case of a fallen creature. It rescues him from the guilt and condemnation of all his previous sins and misdoings; setting his conscience right with God and with himself. Hence proceeds the peace of what is called in Scripture, a state of justification. (Rom. v. 1.) But it also changes the source of his actions. (Ephes. ii. 4—6.) It effects within his heart a death unto sin, and a new birth unto righteousness. This is both the earnest and the means

With these truths, indeed, all who sincerely credit them are not affected in precisely the same manner. It may be that difference of natural constitution as well as of previous character will account for this variation. Some cause of diversity in this respect may also be attributed to the religious teaching under which the Christian character is first formed. But it is a fixed principle in the science of salvation, that none are properly and sufficiently affected by scripture truths, but those who are determined and decided by them. "For the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith."

Under the divine blessing, through the exceedingly distressing exercises of her mind, Miss Parks was eventually brought to this peaceful consummation. Her apprehensions of danger made the message of salvation the more welcome. Her dread of future punishment quickened her desires for present mercy. The solemnities of a day of judgment endeared to her soul the saving opportunities of a day of grace. Her constant sense of self-deficiency weaned her from all self-dependence. And feeling so fully that in herself she was so unfit to meet the judicial eye of the

of his future amendment of life ; and from thence commences that holiness without which no man can see the Lord. This change every child of man needs. The holy law of God shows the necessity of such a change. The holy Gospel of God, in addition, instructs us more fully in its nature and means of attainment. From the joint testimony of both, we learn, that to be unsaved by the Gospel is to be eternally lost ! And the alternative is so fearful, that a person fully awake to the matter cannot but be uneasy until it is brought to a satisfactory and scriptural conclusion. (Acts ix. 9 ; xvi. 29—31.)

holy God, all the powers of her soul were subdued into a cordial compliance with the gospel plan of reconciliation with Him.\* Our sacred poet afforded an aid in the expression of her feeling in this stage of her religious progress:—

“My God and my Lord, thy call I obey;  
My soul on thy word of promise I stay.  
Thy kind invitation, I gladly embrace;  
Athirst for salvation; salvation by grace.” †

The account given by Miss Parks of her religious experience about this time is as follows. It is

\* 2 Cor. v. 18—21; and vi. 1, 2. Rom. iv. 4—8.

† Even a limited acquaintance with Christians of experience will furnish us with the means of discovering, that in the circumstances under which the penitent receives his first saving consolations in answer to his praying faith, there is often a considerable variety. And this may perhaps be attributable to causes to which we have already had occasion to advert. In some cases, the comfort arising from a gracious change is more gradually perceptible, in others more immediately. The divine Agent, who performs the mighty work, bears his witness with the heart that it has been accomplished. This witness of pardon and acceptance in the Beloved is an internal conviction, which proves itself to be from God by its loving, and spiritual, and heavenly fruits in the heart and life. It is thus, through whatever medium he is pleased to convey his testimony to the mind, that “the Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirits that we are the children of God; and if children, then heirs, heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ.” (Rom. viii. 16, 17.) Christians should ever thankfully retain their hold of what they may suppose to be a divine impression, until, without delay, they have subjected it to a scriptural scrutiny. Whatever will not bear that, should be immediately rejected. And when “the fruits of the Spirit” appear, in the renewed temper and conduct of a person professing this experience, would it not be a pertinacity almost bordering upon impiety, for an observer to deny the divine witness and work in the heart of such an one? “Because they said, He hath an unclean spirit.” (Mark iii. 30.)

extracted from a letter to her father, written a few years afterwards, from India :—

“ Though I had felt some happiness, and enjoyed many seasons of comfort in ‘the good way,’ yet my peace was not that of solid assurance of my acceptance with God, until I had been a professor, and in some small measure, I trust, a possessor of religion for some time. This assurance I knew it was my privilege to enjoy. But I had to lament the weakness of my faith, and the slowness of my heart to believe. At last I obtained from God that wrestling power which prevails at the throne of grace; and after earnestly praying to the Lord that some portion of his own word might express to my soul his mind and heart towards me, I opened on the forty-third chapter of Isaiah; and reading with prayer and faith till I came to the 25th and following verse, those words were applied with a divine power to my soul, which proved quite sufficient to remove all my doubt and uncertainty. Blessed words they were to me; and a blessed season; and ever to be remembered with humble gratitude. ‘I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions, for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.’ I had before possessed comfort in hoping; I then felt peace and joy in believing. I still enjoy the evidence of the divine presence and favour. The Lord has kept me until now. And I yet would say,—

‘Keep me, keep me, gracious Lord,  
And never let me go.’”

The practice of a regular or occasional attention to a diary, or journal of religious experience,

has received very honourable sanction among real Christians. It has a tendency variously beneficial. That it habituates the mind to a faithful review of its actual condition, as in the presence of a pure and heart-searching Deity, is no small recommendation of such an observance. But it has often proved helpful to the Christian, thus to put into words, and lay before his eyes, emotions and exercises of soul, which otherwise would be scarcely intelligible to himself; and which, by this salutary means, are prevented from failing of their desired effect. His religious experience is thereby rendered more definite in its character. He understands more clearly what the Lord has done, and is doing, for, and in him; while this confidential and undissembled record of his spiritual progress, whenever reviewed, furnishes him with a standing and stimulating monument of caution and encouragement, of praise and love.

The communication of extracts from such papers has also very frequently been rendered profitable, in a more general way, to those who have still to tread the narrow path of holy love and obedience. And were a judicious and conscientious use always made of such devotional memoranda, perhaps Christians would more frequently abandon the questionable practice of destroying them in the prospect of removal to a better world. This the deceased subject of this memoir was prevented from doing to any extent, as her early private papers which had been mislaid in packing, had been given over as lost, and had not been seen by her for the last few years of her life, and were not discovered till after her departure. Hence they betray no effort at a

lishment ; but are simple expressions of a devout heart, dwelling in the regions of Christian simplicity and godly sincerity. And to those who possess a similarity of disposition, the extracts which may be found in these pages will doubtless commend themselves.

In the happy possession of heavenly good herself, she felt it a binding duty to endeavour the communication of it to others, in so far as she might be favoured with the talent and opportunity of so doing. Through the persuasions of a friend, it was with this motive she engaged herself as a teacher in the Sunday-school, at the Land of Promise, in Hoxton ; and notwithstanding her distance from the school, her attendance was regular. Influenced by love to souls, a principle of action so essential and useful in a Sunday-school teacher, she could not be contented with the simple duty of teaching her pupils to read. She aimed to lead them to an acquaintance with themselves as sinners, and to a saving knowledge of God in Christ Jesus ; to advance their interests not only in this world, but also in that which is to come. This engrossed her heart, as well when she was absent from them, as when she beheld them listening to her affectionate instructions : and often, while watering others, her own soul was watered.\* It was by this means

\* I cannot forbear subjoining the following excellent remarks on the employment of a Sunday-school teacher :—  
“ It is calculated to lead us to prayer. He is totally unworthy of the name of a Sunday-school teacher, who does not feel impelled to present his children at the throne of grace, with importunate pleading for their salvation : and he who goes there upon one errand, on which he feels *strongly*, generally finds several things to plead for there.



that her constant attendance at the school, twice every Sabbath, was prevented from being an irksome task. And it may be considered a gracious remuneration which God connects with the proper discharge of the duty of a Sunday-school teacher, that those who thus act, have seldom any reason to esteem it "a weariness."

These engagements brought her into an acquaintance with several pious friends, who were employed in the same excellent institution. Towards these, as fellow-labourers, she felt the sincerest Christian attachment. And, with them, she was happy to be engaged, when leisure enabled her, in visiting the sick children of the school, in seeking after those who were wandering, and in the distribution of religious tracts; a useful labour of love, which engaged her attention for some years. The state of her mind in the mean time is best exhibited in the following extracts from her diary and correspondence:—

"Sunday, March 3d, 1810.—At family-worship, this morning my father read Matt. xiii. Lord, may my heart be like the good ground: may I hear and keep thy word. In the forenoon heard Mr. Campbell with much profit, from Rev. ii. 8—17, on the *hidden manna*, and the *white stone*. Thank God for the good I received. After dinner I went to school as usual; had a goodly company

This has often given life and feeling to the prayers of pious teachers, when nothing else has done it; and they have felt more earnestness in pleading for others than in seeking blessings for themselves. And as such prayers are always returned sevenfold into the bosom of the petitioner, abundant blessings always descend in answer to them."—*Lloyd's Teacher's Manual*, p. 104. [18mo. pp. 138, 1s. 6d.]



of children ; and felt my heart much interested in their improvement and salvation. Lord, give me to feel more of the worth of souls. May the dear children lie very near my heart. Help me to do all things for thy glory.

“Tuesday, 5th.—This morning I awoke in great depression, owing to a severe trial through which I have lately been called to pass ; and I felt a strong temptation not to return thanks for again having been brought to see the morning light ! But I bless God I had grace to resist the shameful thought ; and in a measure, I trust, came off more than conqueror.

“Sunday, 10th.—Last evening my heart was much drawn out in prayer that this might prove a profitable Sabbath to my soul, and that I might have that sweet union and communion with God which would afford me a foretaste of the eternal Sabbath ; and I bless the Lord that my prayer has been heard and answered. At the school, this morning, I felt my mind and heart much engaged for the real welfare of the dear children committed to our care.

“After taking tea with Mrs. S. this afternoon, her husband prayed : she then took me into her chamber, alone ; and we there had a refreshing season in prayer together. In the evening, at City-Road, heard Mr. Kelk, from, ‘ Say ye to the righteous, it shall be well with him,’ &c. We had a most excellent and profitable discourse. Lord, impress on my mind what I have heard this day.

“Friday, December 7th, 1810.—Last night I heard Mr. Reece, from, ‘ This is my covenant that I will make,’ &c. I went certainly with a *praying frame of mind*, but returned without what I

wanted. Knowing the fault must be in myself, I was greatly cast down; and, in my own room, sought and found the Lord. Praise his name! like Jacob, I entreated him; and, like Israel, prevailed; and could close my eyes to rest with confidence in God, knowing he had pardoned my sins, and accepted me, so unworthy, through the merits of the Redeemer.

"Sunday, December 9th.—Awoke this morning in a spirit of thankfulness to God for all his mercies to me. Heard Mr. Highfield, from Malachi iii. 1—3. 'Behold, I will send my messenger,' &c. He appeared much assisted. Bless the Lord! I went to his house earnestly craving a blessing; and he filled my hungry heart with good things. Under the sermon I was, as it were, in heaven: I felt assured that I was a real believer in Christ. What a mercy to belong to him! I sat under his vine, and did eat and drink, and was satisfied. In the afternoon, at school, I found a work for me to do. The Lord enabled me to speak to the children. May he bless and save their immortal souls. I greatly feel for them, and earnestly long, in my feeble way, to promote their salvation. But O, what a poor, ignorant, and unworthy creature am I!

"Wednesday, December 12th. — I attended this evening the annual meeting of the teachers and friends of our Sunday-school. Mr. Ranshall was in the chair; and after opening the business of the evening, he gave us an excellent and appropriate address. I found it profitable, as well as interesting; and was afresh excited to be more zealous for the cause of God and the eternal good of the souls of those dear children that are committed

to my care. But I feel how greatly I need teaching myself, that I may be enabled to instruct them in the right way. Returning home, I poured out my soul in prayer to God ; and I desire to be thankful that I found peace through Christ.

“ January 1st, 1811.—

‘ For love I sigh, for love I pine ;  
This only portion, Lord, be mine,  
Be mine this better part.’

Yet I do feel I love my Lord ; and I will praise him. He has enabled me to conclude the old year, and to begin the new one, in a heavenly frame of mind. May the Sun of righteousness ever arise on me with healing in his wings ! On Sunday we renew our covenant with God. It is my wish and intention, in the strength the Lord shall supply, to live more unreservedly to him, and to make myself as useful as possible to my fellow-creatures. I am much encouraged in my Sunday-school labours by the good accounts we have had of our affairs in the past year ; and often feel it good, while teaching the children, to ask them a few questions, and to address a few simple words to them. In the week past I have enjoyed much of the presence of God.

“ January 28th.—I desire to bless God, he increases my faith ; and daily I feel power to give myself entirely into his hands. I experience that I am his child, and have no will of my own, knowing what he wills is best. O, what doth grace effect ! It levels hills and mountains, and makes rough places smooth. Once I had a will of my own ; but now he enables me in all things to say, ‘ Thy will be done !’

“ February 20th.—I have enjoyed much of

the divine presence during the last two months ; though by numerous engagements I have been hindered from writing much. To-day I have had such a sight of myself, such a view of my utter weakness and unworthiness, that, like Peter, I felt myself beginning to sink ; but like him, I cried to the Lord, and, like him, was graciously delivered. O that I could love the Lord more ! I feel this my one desire. The fourth Psalm, and the first chapter of Nehemiah, were blest to me in reading this evening.

“April 24th.—To-day I had such a sense of the divine love and compassion to sinners that my feelings cannot be described. When I consider his love to unworthy me, my tears cannot but flow. O, how many drops of ‘richer blood’ did Jesus shed for me !

“Last Sunday was a good day to me. Having been at school morning and afternoon, I heard Mr. Blanshard in the evening. His sermon was particularly blest to me. My mother was informing me, this afternoon, of a person of my acquaintance being under convictions of sin, and wishing to see me. About six months ago she was one of my chief persecutors, and one of the gayest women I know. It gave me great pleasure to hear of her being so affected ; and I intend to go and see her. May the Lord help me to speak a word for his glory ! There is quite a revival of the work of God in London. Several more, I know, have been brought to the knowledge of the truth. Praise the Lord ! Nothing is too hard for him.

“January 2d, 1812.—I have indeed, had a happy Christmas. In the morning of the Nativity I heard Mr. Barber, at five o'clock, from Galatia

.5 ; and at ten o'clock, Mr. Benson, from Malachi iii. 1, 2. He was very excellent ; and it was truly good for me to be there. I remained after the preaching, and received the Sacrament ; in which service the Lord did again graciously manifest himself to my soul. I dined at home, with a large party. Twenty-one of us, chiefly of our own family, sat round the table. My dear father was, as usual, 'in tune ;' and we spent the afternoon in singing, and not altogether without prayer.

'Let those refuse to sing,  
Who never knew our God ;  
But servants of the heavenly King  
May speak their joys abroad.'"

We are now brought to a period of her life, important through the agitation of a question which involved the taking up of a formidable cross in the way of duty ; that of leaving country, and kindred, and home, for the sake of the benighted Heathen abroad. I had entertained serious intentions of being proposed as a Missionary to the degraded and enslaved Africans, in the West Indies. And, on my communicating my feelings on this subject to Miss Parks, between whom and myself there had been long an affectionate correspondence carried on, she obliged me by the following Christian expression of her most cheerful concurrence with the project :—

*"Kingsland, April 20th, 1810.*

"Before I opened your letter, I had been apprized of its contents, and therefore I went to the Lord in prayer, begging that he would enable me to consider your communication with calmness and resignation to the divine will ; and after I had read it, I was led to follow the *example of Hezekiah* ; and spreading the letter be-

fore the Lord, entreated him to direct us both in the right way. I spent the whole of the afternoon in secret prayer on so important a subject. In the evening, at class, I was much blest in hearing our sisters speaking of the goodness of God to them; and especially some of them, who had been supported in heavy trials. Surely, I thought, I also have been preserved in six troubles, and in the seventh the Lord will not be unmindful of me.

"I thank you for so amply laying the subject before me, and view it as another proof of your regard; and should you be appointed by the Conference, I hope I shall be able to afford you a proof of mine; for I have now left it in the hands of the Lord. It is my one desire to be useful, whether in my native land, or on a foreign shore. The Lord deign to make some humble use of me. I feel my own weakness. But surely shall one say, in the Lord have I righteousness and strength: and to me, Christ is all and in all."

Thus encouraged, I proceeded to take the advice of a few Ministers and friends; who, giving the preference to an Asiatic Mission, from various circumstances, some of which related to our health, advised us to wait until an opening should occur in that interesting quarter of the world. From that time she experienced increasing friendship from our London Ministers and their wives. The latter, especially, regarding her as a future female Missionary, kindly embraced many opportunities of making her more fully acquainted with the duties of her prospective station in life, and cherished her noble and adventurous spirit with many affectionate expressions of their good-will.

As no new path appeared immediately to open before her, she steadily and unassumingly adhered to her accustomed duty, doing with all her might whatever she found to do, habituating herself to the spirit of sacrifice, and patiently and cheerfully waiting the will of God. A further extract from her correspondence will exhibit her thus engaged.

“Kingsland, Sept. 30th, 1812.—I have found it very good this morning to read the 18th Psalm, and recommend it to you. How sweet is the word of God when his blessed Spirit applies it home to the heart! When I read, what need have I to say, ‘Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things in thy law!’ Open thou my heart, that I may receive the blessings it reveals! The Lord grant that I may not be a reader or hearer of his word only, deceiving my own soul; but a doer also, that my life may correspond with the religion I profess! My mercies and privileges are neither few nor small. I have nothing to complain of but my deficiency of gratitude to God. The present desires of my heart is, that my every breath may be spent in praising him, and in improving my opportunities.

“June 10th, 1813.—During the last month I have experienced the abundant fulfilment of that promise, ‘Seek, and ye shall find;’ and have had a portion of that spirit which Jacob possessed when he said to Jehovah, ‘I will not let thee go, except thou bless me!’ One week in particular, my soul was thus favoured. My desires were continually ascending towards heaven, and *blessings were continually descending upon me.* I



was truly happy ; and so, through my Redeemer, I still feel myself. The blessing of such a state is unspeakable. I can say with David, ' My cup runneth over.' I think, by his grace, I could do and suffer any thing which might be the will of God concerning me."

To this period India had appeared entirely closed as to the probability of establishing a Wesleyan Mission within its boundaries ; and some of her friends, in anticipation that this event would still be protracted, and especially in their opposition to the West Indian Mission, intimated that it would be much more agreeable to their wishes if she would make the former the scene of her exertion : she was willing to take them at their word ; and waited with Christian readiness the openings of Providence. The discussion of the question in Parliament brightened her hopes ; and when the late admirable and venerable Doctor Coke laid the foundation of the Mission to Ceylon, she had the honour to be the first female who put her hand to the plough ; and this when she had no expectation of any female companion. And, it may be added, she never looked back. The following is the language of a letter on this subject, written by her, under the date of July 17th, 1813 :—

" My dear father has been conversing with a friend upon the East India business ; from whom I understand he intends to oppose my going, if he can. He says, he feels it impossible to give his consent to my going. Dear man ! No doubt he feels. But I hope the Lord will enable him to



make the sacrifice, should the Conference appoint you to the Mission. Pray for him. I must get you to write to him. However, I am firm. If the Lord will that you go, I am ready to accompany you to the ends of the earth. Hearing of my father's feelings on the subject, rather discomposed my mind; but I wish to leave it all in the hands of our God; trusting in him to make rough places plain, and crooked paths straight before me."

Her zeal and firmness in this new and difficult engagement gave her a considerable share of the esteem of the venerable founder of the Mission; who used every means in his power to reconcile the minds of her father and family to her Missionary prospects; and not altogether without success. And it was as an expression of his regard, that the Doctor engaged to perform the service at her marriage, which took place on the 23d of November, and honoured the nuptial party with his presence and prayers in the after part of the day.

In this eventful transaction of her life, it was a becoming satisfaction, which she felt, that her excellent father had become reconciled to the trial he had to undergo. Our acquaintance had received his entire approbation; and he had declared his full and affectionate consent to our marriage. His reluctance arose solely from the Missionary question. It was never intended to affect our union, but simply our departure to a foreign land; and there was nothing in it but what might have been expected from the feelings of a Christian nature. His was not the obsti-

nacy which resolutely disregards every thing but its own fixed determination. That may be natural to an unregenerated creature. It is not so to those who are in possession of a new nature. (2 Cor. v. 17.)

Nor was the zeal of his daughter of that wordy and vaunting kind, which is so frequently the chief source of strength and excitement to the difficulty with which it has to contend. It was a flame of love, which silently fed upon the vapour that threatened to extinguish it. The threatening vapour expired under its pervading action. Hers was not that untempered and unholy fervour which would have solicited the fire of heaven to consume its opponents. It was the unassuming and affectionate firmness of that holy Christian, whom even stoning did not deter from duty ; while, at the same time, he could calmly expend the remains of his life in prayers of love for those who were violently taking it away. (Acts vii. 60.) "The wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God."

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## PART II.

FROM HER EMBARKING IN THE ASIATIC MISSION,  
UNTIL THE CONCLUSION OF THE YEAR 1816.

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"By faith, Abraham, when he was called to go out, obeyed: and he went out, not knowing whither he went."  
—ST. PAUL.

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EARLY in December, 1813, having obtained as cordial a consent from her family as could have been expected, Mrs. Harvard proceeded to take up the Missionary cross; and bidding adieu to every scene and comfort with which she had hitherto been familiar, she accompanied me to Portsmouth, in order to embark for India.

No heart was more filial than hers, or more attached to the kindest of parents; yet, as much as possible, she magnanimously forbade her own feelings to evince themselves, lest they should excite those of her family not so fortified as herself by the spirit of sacrifice.\* Frequent attempts were made to shake the firmness of her mind. The dangers of the undertaking, and the weakness of her constitution, were often contrasted. The comforts of home, and of England, with all the glory

\* "Never before did my dear mamma, brothers, and sisters, appear so dear to me. But God commands me! In his holy providence he now offers me an opportunity of visiting the Heathen.—How can I ever pray for the promotion of his Gospel among the Heathen, if I am unwilling to offer my little aid when such an opportunity is given?"—*Mrs. Newell.*

of them, were presented before her with many an eloquent expatiation. But she never for a moment wavered. And though on smaller and less eventful occasions she had in her previous life appeared to manifest a highly nervous and timid temperament; yet when, walking from Portsea to Portsmouth, she for the first time in her life saw the ocean, and heard its rolling waves thundering upon the shore,—with the self-command of a Missionary heroine, she cheerfully expressed the pleasure she felt on being so contiguous to the mighty element which was about to convey us to the unenlightened inhabitants of Asia.

It was, indeed, an evidence of the power of religious influence to render its subject fully equal to all the variations of religious duty. And she often proved this. “Who goeth a warfare at his own charges?” None who sincerely enter upon the service of our Emmanuel. Throughout the voyage it was almost a daily inquiry if she repented of her undertaking; and a noble declaration in the negative, was her invariable reply. One of her last letters to her parents will express in her own language the admirable and becoming state of her mind.—

“ *Portsea, Dec. 16th, 1813.*

“ My very dear Parents,

“ We received my dear father’s letter this morning. Bless God for his goodness. May he still support you and us by his blessed Spirit! When we think of our dear parents,—of brothers and sisters, and kind friends,—we feel as we cannot express. But we are cared for by Him who is &

where present. I should certainly like to see you once more ; but that must be left to your own convenience. If not, let me have your likenesses : I shall set great store by them.

“ We have to-day had the pleasure of seeing our Captain. He is very kind ; and gave us information of what we shall want for our voyage. He was so obliging as to mention a few things which I should not have thought of. We shall have four other female passengers, besides myself ; and twenty soldiers’ wives. This I mention, because I am sure it will give you pleasure, and greatly reconcile your minds to my approaching voyage. This morning we were intending to go and see our vessel, which lies out a few miles from the shore ; but the sea was too rough for the pilot-boat to take us off. I fully expected to be a little frightened with my first view of the sea ; but was not in the least. I feel I am in the hands of a *praying father*, and a *good God* ; and about to embark in a *good cause* ; and this affords me great comfort ; and, by divine grace, renders my heart equal to my circumstances.

“ The friends with whom we are, Mr. and Mrs. Keet, jun., are very kind. We are just going to take tea with Mr. and Mrs. Aikenhead, in company with the Doctor and a few other Preachers. Mr. and Mrs. Edmondson are very affectionate and tender towards us. In the latter I have found quite a mother.”

The Rev. W. Ault, one of our companions, having married, Mrs. Harvard rejoiced in the pleasing prospect of the society of a *Missionary sister* ; but as Mrs. Ault and her husband had

their passage engaged in the *Lady Melville*, another vessel in the same fleet, the consequent separation was a mutual trial to them. During our continuance at Portsmouth, they conceived a real friendship for each other; and when they were called to separate, though the parting was final, as it respected this world, it was in sure and certain hope of a better meeting in a better world.

We embarked at Portsmouth-Point, on the eve of the new year, 1814; and in an hour or two were conveyed by the pilot-boat on board our own vessel, the H. C.'s ship *Cabalva*, commanded by Jonathan Birch, Esq.\* The whole fleet was under weigh; but the motion of the ship did not much affect Mrs. Harvard until we reached the Bay of Biscay. That noted region, always more or less tempestuous, was at that season of the year particularly so; yet, owing to the war, our Commodore continued cruising about in the bay for nearly a month; and the unpleasant motion, produced by the unceasing storms, rendered it almost impossible for Mrs. Harvard to sit up through the whole period. Her sufferings, from sea-sickness, were very distressing; and it was feared the consequences would have been fatal. In an interval of relief,

\* The *Lady Melville* Missionary party comprehended the Rev. Messrs. W. Ault, J. Lynch, G. Erskine, T. H. Squance, and Mrs. Ault. Our own vessel contained the venerable Dr. Coke, the Rev. B. Clough, Mrs. H., and myself. The Doctor's intention, in proceeding to Bombay, was to procure a passage for us to Ceylon, by one of those small vessels which trade between the two places. At that time opportunities of conveyance to India were less frequent than at present, and were almost entirely restricted to the regular Indiamen.

... I am  
... from happy Ex  
... The thought often makes me  
... can scarcely write  
... you without tears. Find  
... And though I  
... Providence would have me  
... and my beloved br  
... And you, my dear father  
... are never long from my remembrance  
... I feel I love you more  
... Since leaving England I have been  
... exceedingly ill: and at one time expected  
... to leave this world. Had that been the  
... I trust it would have been for a better.  
... thank the Lord. I am now recovering fast  
... the climate for which we are bound  
... suit me better than you expected. Pray for  
... we need much prayer. I know you do remember  
... as at the throne of grace. We feel you do.'

Seasons of trouble, to minds properly balanced by a sense of duty, are frequently rendered profitable, by becoming sources of retrospection, and rigid self-examination. By means, that which is wrong receives correction and that which is right, confirmation. It should be expected that such circumstances will always be improved by the enemy of truth who is ever on the alert to pervert the in its conclusions. The tossings of the B

Biscay, and the distressing illness to which they reduced Mrs. Harvard, were made the occasions of severe exercise to her. At one time she could hardly be persuaded not to view them as expressions of the divine displeasure towards herself, on account of the pain she had caused to her friends by leaving her native land! But the divine goodness relieved her from this perverted impression of mind; and an impartial scrutiny into her real motives of action ultimately tended to confirm her in the conviction that she had been divinely led in her adoption of the Missionary life. The foregoing letter presents her as calmly triumphing after this season of conflict and exercise.

It is to be regretted that more of her valuable letters during the voyage have not been preserved. Their contents made them so much an object of request among her numerous friends, that they have either been worn out by frequent perusal, or have wandered beyond the reach of recovery. But they all breathed the same affectionate, resigned, happy, and contented spirit.

The Cabalva, in that voyage, was peculiarly favoured in the excellence of disposition which characterized her large family of cabin passengers. The valuable Commander, and his esteemed officers, suffered nothing to be disregarded which had any bearing on the general comfort. And this, by a constant re-action, regulated the individual deportment of every member of the large party; nearly thirty of whom dined together in the state-room, daily. Notwithstanding, however, the Missionary family sometimes found themselves called upon to act in a minority on



having afterwards an opportunity of forwarding communications to England, her heart thus disclosed itself, in a letter to her parents:—

“On board the Cabalva, at Sea.—I am now nearly six thousand miles from happy England and you. The thought often makes me heave a heavy sigh; and I can scarcely write these few lines to you without tears. Frail nature feels the sacrifice of home! And though I trust I am where Providence would have me to be, I must think of home, and my beloved brothers and sisters.—And you, my dear father and mother, are never long from my remembrance, by night or day. I feel I love you more than ever. Since leaving England I have been exceedingly ill; and at one time expected daily to leave this world. Had that been the case, I trust it would have been for a better. But, thank the Lord, I am now recovering fast; and hope the climate for which we are bound will suit me better than you expected. Pray for us: we need much prayer. I know you do remember us at the throne of grace. We feel you do.”

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some questions on which their peculiar character dictated a difference of opinion from their respected fellow-passengers. And it may be added, this liberty was always conceded to them. Persons who do not themselves avow a decided profession of religion, always expect consistency of conduct from those who make the avowal. And they cannot but commend it, even if its expression occasion them a temporary pain.

The parental affection which our venerable leader cherished for her, met all the returns of a daughter's regard. It was her happiness to have it in her power to be frequent in offices of kindness and attention towards that truly good, great, and invaluable man. And she considered herself well repaid in his friendly and patriarchal visits, in his enlivening and edifying conversation, and in his ardent prayers for herself and hers. The Rev. B. Clough was tenderly recognised by her as a brother; and the regard was mutual. Our daily seasons of devotion were interesting and memorable. In the evening we generally sung together in our apartment some Portuguese hymn, composed by Doctor Coke in the previous part of the day: and thus our foreign engagements became anticipated, before we had reached our place of destination and labour.

A detachment of recruits proceeded in the same vessel to Bombay; and several women, the wives of the soldiers, accompanied them. Timidity and inexperience prevented Mrs. H. from visiting them in their own quarters, as she was accustomed afterwards to do, when in similar circumstances; but her ear and heart were open to the least *whisper* of suffering or necessity among them.

Our humane Commander always made provision for the sick women and young children, who were supplied with wine and fresh provisions from his own table. But there were cases of debility and ailment which did not come under the eye of the medical man, and hence were not reported to the officer superintending. Such individuals Mrs. H. would sometimes send for up to our own cabin, that she might the better know their circumstances. And as the steward usually took some small delicacies round to the ladies in their cabins, by way of a lunch at noon, she would contrive to invite a visiter of this description about that time of the day, and make them partake of it in her presence, to prevent her humane design from being counteracted. She had seen enough of the world to know that a charitable intention often meets with a knavish perversion; and therefore became her own almoner. She thus had access to the heart of many a poor soldier's wife; ever keeping in view (though it was a cross to her to embrace them) the advantages it afforded her of speaking a word in season for the benefit of their never-dying souls, and the glory of Him whom she delighted to exalt and magnify.

Her habitual disposition of mind considerably tended to secure to her the cordial esteem and friendship of her more immediate and respectable female fellow-passengers; with whom she was in the habit of receiving and paying friendly cabin-visits during those parts of the day in which the gentlemen were generally engaged in reading or otherwise, on the quarter-deck. With these ladies she remained in habits of cordial

intercourse after her arrival in India; and perhaps the favourable bearing of that circumstance on our Missionary interests cannot be fully estimated. In a Missionary voyage, the foundation of future Missionary usefulness is often materially affected, either favourably or unfavourably. These opportunities of intercourse were not wholly unimproved; and it is hoped they were rendered productive of individual good, which may hereafter appear.

Nothing was necessary more decidedly to evince that usefulness was her ruling endeavour, than her studied perseverance in avoiding in her own conduct whatever might prove a hinderance to the accomplishment of that desirable object. She had learnt, and adopted it as a maxim, that in aiming successfully at being useful to others, we must ever seek to strengthen our humble efforts by the force of well-doing in ourselves. It was very common on the voyage to have evening dances upon the deck during the ascendancy of the moon; and Mrs. H. had often been importuned by some of the ladies to join them in what they doubtless considered to be an innocent amusement. It ought to be remarked, that this species of gratification is pursued by thousands who would instantly abandon it, did they conceive it as otherwise than innocent. But custom and prepossession very materially affect our views of things. From other habits and prepossessions, as well as from a sense of what was most conducive to the interests of the soul, the dance had no attraction in the estimation of Mrs. H. She was accustomed pleasantly to reply, *that she could not consent, unless her husband*

would join also ; and that was considered so much out of character, as not even to be proposed.

One evening, however, as Mrs. H. was sitting on the upper part of the deck, enjoying the moonlight scene and the cooling breeze, she was recognised by one of the ladies engaged at the ball on the quarter-deck ; who approaching her, expressed the pleasure she felt in seeing her out ; and added, that she supposed she was come to have a view of their innocent amusement. Grieved that it should be thought she would commend by her notice what she could not encourage by her example, Mrs. Harvard embraced an early opportunity of retiring to her cabin ; remarking on the great importance of consistency of character ; and adding, that she would prefer the sacrifice of the evening breeze, though within the torrid zone, to the evil of appearing to sanction in others, what she would have been obliged to condemn in herself. To this rule she adhered. After that evening she never left her cabin when she found there was to be a ball upon deck. And those who felt themselves concerned were too much biassed in her favour, to cause her conduct to become a matter of offence.

Early in February the respected Mrs. Ault was removed by death ; and on the third of May, our Mission family were bereaved of the venerable Doctor Coke. Mrs. Harvard mourned for him as for a beloved parent : and in the various anxieties in which his death involved us, she was forward to bear her part ; encouraging us to prosecute the great object of our Mission, with all those Christian considerations, with which, from a child, it was her happiness to

have been made familiar. Her affection for the Doctor led her to obtain several locks of his silvered hair; with small portions of which she afterwards found a pleasure in gratifying his personal friends on her return to England.

Our voyage closed on Saturday, the twenty-first of May; a month generally esteemed more than usually worthy of notice from the number of public meetings at that time held in London in furtherance of the designs of Christianity;—but a month peculiarly memorable to ourselves, on account of the melancholy Missionary bereavement we sustained on its third day!

We entered the commodious harbour of Bombay under a discharge of cannon. The fine bay, with all its novel scenes, suddenly rising around us, after seeing nothing but sky and water for five months, appeared to us almost like the effect of enchantment. Yet, deprived of the venerable man who was to have introduced us into this new world, perhaps our feelings differed from those of the generality of persons who composed the fleet.

Most of the passengers were in a few hours taken on shore by their several friends. The poor soldiers, and their wives also, soon found a home. But as Missionaries, unknown, unexpected, and even undesired, we were thankful to accept the kind invitation of our esteemed Captain to make his vessel our home, until we were provided with a residence on shore. And this accommodation was continued to us for some days; Mr. Clough and myself proceeding to the shore every morning, and returning in the evening, after the conclusion of our various engagements.



In this interval Mrs. Harvard had a fair opportunity to exemplify the passive excellencies of her character. Strongly excited, as may be supposed, both by curiosity to see the new country, with its various tribes of inhabitants, and by the desire which so long a voyage naturally produces once more to place the foot upon land ; she found herself unexpectedly left without female society on board of a ship ; and was detained within view of the shore, whilst at the same time she was denied its comforts : still she did not exhibit any marks of a repining or dissatisfied spirit. With the acquiescence of the devout in the Israelitish camp, she waited the moving of the conducting cloud of Providence ; and felt no desire to step any farther than as the way might appear to open.

The difficulties of our situation arose, principally, from the loss of our venerable leader ; to whom had been committed every thing regarding our introduction to India, and our support there ; and on account of whose unexpected decease, a variety of new arrangements became necessary. A strong and prevailing antipathy to Missionary objects, at that juncture, tended to increase our difficulties. At length, by the goodness of God, our path began to brighten, and our friends to multiply. Through the kind offices of Captain Birch, we were interested in the friendly regards of W. T. Money, Esq., at that time one of the principal merchants in Bombay ; whose lady invited Mrs. Harvard on shore, and, with some other ladies, to whose acquaintance she was thus introduced, was particularly kind to her. The late worthy Sir Evan Nepean, Bart., the



Governor, having desired that we would occupy one of his own country-houses during our continuance in Bombay; after dining at Mr. Money's on the first day of Mrs. Harvard's landing, we were conveyed in his carriage to the Governor's mansion, or rather palace, at Parell, about six miles in the country.

Mrs. Harvard and myself subsequently procured a house of our own; and our Missionary brethren having taken their departure for Ceylon, we remained in Bombay until the January following; in the course of which time our first child was born. He was baptized by the late Rev. N. Wade, the Chaplain of the Presidency. While we continued at that place, Mrs. H. gained the esteem of several very kind and respected individuals, to whom she always endeavoured to render herself the medium of usefulness. On her first appearance at church after her confinement, she was noticed by the Governor, who politely congratulated her on her recovery. The late Rev. Samuel Newell used to imagine that her character in some respects greatly resembled that of his lamented Harriet; on which account her company and conversation were highly valued by him. And she had a heart that could sympathize with the widowed Missionary in a foreign land: she would listen attentively to his affecting references to past scenes, and, with him, would shed a tear at the recital of the sorrows of departed worth.

From the prevalence of heathenism in that part of India, it was exceedingly difficult to meet with Christian servants. With the exception of one Roman Catholic, who acted as cook, ours

were all pagan idolaters; and no order from us that our servants should attend our family worship, would at that time have produced any desirable consequences. There is, however, a strong power of attraction in the character of love; and this our idolatrous servants soon beheld in Mrs. Harvard. For them she felt the tenderest pity and compassion; and it was gratifying to observe the attachment which some of them manifested to her in return. Often I have overheard her talking to them in broken English, to render herself intelligible, on the high concerns of their salvation; and, though we could not rejoice in the decided conversion even of one of them, it is not improbable that the minds of some were thus in a great measure prepared for the reception of Christianity. They were restrained from mixing with us, yet I have sometimes seen them standing or sitting near, in the attitude of attention, during the performance of our religious services. In this early stage of our Missionary progress, it might truly be said of her, "She hath done what she could."

Throughout all the sudden and unexpected alterations which took place in our outward circumstances, the equanimity of Mrs. Harvard's mind was very remarkable. As in adversity there had been no unbecoming depression, so in prosperity there was no indication of any thing verging to the opposite extreme. This of course arose not from insensibility; for no one could be more truly thankful than herself, or more acutely feel the pleasing alteration in the position of our affairs, than she did. It was the result of a renewed and well-regulated temper of mind,—of the truest Christian simplicity; and to this is to

be ascribed the fact, that amidst all the peculiar attentions with which she was favoured during her missionary life, her sentiments and deportment were of the same description as they were when in her father's house.

A serious cold, caught soon after her confinement, induced a painful and dangerous illness of some weeks' continuance, and deprived her of the pleasure of continuing to nurse her beloved child. This appeared to be one of her greatest trials; and when she first beheld the infant receiving its nourishment from a native nurse, she manifested the most extreme distress of mind. But, by divine grace, her heart was, under this affliction, enabled to bow with submission to the will of Providence.

The following are extracts from a few of her letters, and from her diary, while at Bombay:—

#### TO HER MOTHER.

“Mazagong, Bombay, August 1st, 1814.—I have written several letters since our arrival here in May; and have embraced every opportunity of giving you intelligence concerning ourselves and our affairs. Though we have had many scenes of trial to pass through, yet we have had abundant reasons of thankfulness to the Lord, who has been very kind and merciful towards us.

“We lost dear Mrs. Ault about six weeks after leaving England. We felt the bereavement extremely; both on Mr. Ault's individual account, as well as the being so soon deprived of one of our small party. But the Lord knows what is best; his ways are not our ways, nor his thoughts our thoughts. She was favoured with an easy and

happy death; and said she had no objection to her remains being committed to the deep. 'It matters little,' said she, 'what becomes of the body, so that the soul is secure!' She was a very pious young person; and I had promised myself that I should find in her a comfortable companion, or correspondent, in a foreign land.

"You will no doubt be surprised to hear of the death of our venerable friend Doctor Coke. This bereavement took place about a fortnight before we arrived in this new land. The Lord only knows what were our feelings at the time of his sudden departure from us. It was indeed a great shock to us; as we had not entertained the least idea of such an event. He had been a few days rather unwell: but from this we apprehended nothing serious; as the health of most persons suffers a little while they are seasoning for a change of climate. The night before, he was in our cabin. He usually came in to singing and prayer. That night he excused himself from remaining with us, saying that, being rather poorly, he wished to retire earlier. Little did we think it was to be the last interview! He very cheerfully took leave of us; and told W—— to thank God he had obtained so good a wife! Poor dear man! To lose him was like the stroke of losing a beloved father.

"We had a voyage of five months, without placing foot on land; during three of which I was almost incessantly sea-sick. But, thank the Lord, he has spared me, I trust, for his glory and the good of immortal souls. O my dear mother, pray that I may have that wisdom from above, which will enable me to work wisely in the vineyard.

of our Lord. I should account it a great honour, and it is my earnest desire, to be a helper indeed to my husband in his work. May we each be taught of God, and made wise to win souls to Him!

“When I look around, and see so many perishing for lack of knowledge, my heart often aches for them. Thousands here are worshippers of stocks and stones! At present, such are the obstacles, that the Gospel cannot be so much as preached to them; what with fear on the one part of the inhabitants, and prejudice on the other.\* Lord, hasten the time when the Heathen shall know thee, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent! This I would hope is not far distant. We have lately begun to open our own house for the worship of God, to which any one is welcome to come who may be desirous of hearing words of salvation. We have two evenings thus engaged every week. On Sunday our small class meets, † consisting of a few persons under serious impressions; after which a sermon is delivered to a much larger company: and on Thursday we have a meeting for prayer and expounding the Scriptures. I trust good will be done; though we have none but Europeans and country-born persons who attend at present.

“I often think of your kindness to me, from

\* It is gratifying to know that this is no longer the case at that important Presidency. Missionary labours are now unforbidden there; and public discourses are delivered to the idolatrous native inhabitants without any of those ill consequences which were at that time predicted by many persons of importance in India.

† A weekly meeting for religious communion held among the Wesleyan Methodists.

my childhood to the time I parted with you. O my dear mother, when I bring to my remembrance the last time I saw you and my dear father and family, a flood of tears bespeak what are the feelings of my heart. But that is a matter on which I ought not to dwell. It was the will of the Lord that we should be separated. There I rest. Else I could wish my dear mother were not so many thousand miles from me; and especially as I have in prospect a new trial. But the Lord will, I trust, be with me."

### DIARY.

"August 15th.—I have found it very good to read in our Magazine the religious experience and happy deaths of two pious persons who now inherit the promises: Mrs. Stanley, wife of one of our preachers, and Miss Mallitt, a young person of our Society in Lowestoff. May I follow them, O Lord, as they followed thee! Last night was a season to be remembered. I was considerably blessed while we were singing the hymn which begins, 'Weary souls, that wander wide;' and in going over the words,—

'O believe the record true;  
God to you his Son hath given,'—

I felt such love to God actuating my soul, as I am unable to describe. O that I could love him more ardently! I am thankful my desires increase after God and holiness; though, on a retrospective view of the dealings of God with me, I am grieved and ashamed before him on account of the great advantages I have had, and the little

improvement I have made. I ought to be a bright and shining light in the church of God ! May I, in future, be more zealous in endeavouring to do and receive good. 'Draw me, Lord : I will run after thee.'

"August 17th.—This morning I felt an involuntary and anxious solicitude respecting my situation ; but the Lord was very gracious. On lifting up my heart to him, those words were applied to my mind, quite as a word in season, 'When thou passest,' &c. (Isa. xliii. 2.) I love thee, my Lord, for the remembrance of thy precious promises. Thou doest good continually. Thy nature and thy name is love. Help me to rely on thee more and more ! The family reading has been to-day very sweet and instructive, and the throne of grace accessible to my soul. Blessed be God !

'And who that knows the worth of prayer,  
But wishes to be often there ?'

"August 19th.—We have heard to-day from our dear brethren in Ceylon. Providence has wonderfully opened their way, and has given them favour in the eyes of the principal characters there. May he still bless and give them wisdom from above. It is evident that the work is of God, who hath the hearts of all men in his hands. I trust, by his blessing, we shall soon be able to follow our dear friends, and see the work prosper around us. O Lord, may thy word 'have free course, run, and be glorified ;' and may thousands in this dark corner of the earth rise up to call thee blessed !"

## TO HER MOTHER.

“Mazagong, Bombay, December 31st, 1814.—It is with pleasure, my very dear mother, I embrace an opportunity of writing you a few lines ; though I am obliged to submit to restrictions as to quantity, owing to my long and painful illness. But I desire to be thankful I am now recovering. Hitherto the Lord hath helped me. On the 27th of September I was made the mother of a living child. Praised be God ! May I never forget his goodness ! I wished very much you could have been with me ; and though that was impossible, I can say with truth, I found the Lord to be with me. Several of the ladies of this place have been extremely kind ; making me small presents of different articles suitable to my situation, and paying me friendly visits : two of them particularly,—Mrs. Money and Mrs. Pelly. Surely I can speak good of the Lord. He has been mindful of us in a strange land, and has not suffered us to want any good thing. I hope my dear mother will let me have a long letter from herself. It will be very greatly prized by one who greatly loves, and ever will love her, for her kind attentions to me, and my dear brothers and sisters. The Lord ever bless you !”

Being very desirous of hastening to Ceylon, we engaged a passage in a small vessel of about sixty tons, under the command of an English Captain, but navigated by native sailors, Roman Catholics and Mahomedans. We embarked for Bombay before Mrs. Harvard was fully recovered, and unaccompanied by any medical man ; but,



by the divine blessing, no evil consequences ensued from that circumstance. The voyage, however, was unusually long. Our brethren had accomplished it in nine days, but we were at sea nearly seven weeks. Contrary winds blew us so far out of our course, that no one on board could ascertain our situation; we suffered the privations of scarcity, almost to its last extremity; a mutiny, also, among the seamen threatened us with destruction; and we afterwards saw that we had been preserved from the horrors of shipwreck by a most providential interposition. In the midst of all, Mrs. Harvard was wonderfully supported. The native sailors, even under a short allowance of water, voluntarily gave a portion of it to her and the child; and we were brought to Ceylon, without knowing in what direction we were proceeding, in the night succeeding the day on which our last half-starved duck had been killed!

One of Mrs. Harvard's first letters will trace our progress to the station assigned for us in Colombo, the capital of the island.

#### TO HER PARENTS.

"Colombo, Ceylon, March 26th, 1815.—By the divine blessing we were brought in safety to Point-de-Galle, on the 24th of last month, after a most perilous voyage from Bombay. We remained three weeks at the former place with brother Clough; who gave us an affectionate welcome, and made us feel quite at home, at his delightful Missionary residence. We arrived at *this place* on Tuesday, the 21st. Our journey was

performed in bullock-carts ; and though the distance from Galle is not above eighty miles, the men who drove us were so dilatory, that we were six days on the road ! Europeans in general are carried in palanquins, when on a journey ; but as the koolies, or palanquin-carriers, are now so much engaged in the interior, we had no alternative.

“ I know you will bless God for the great deliverance he has wrought out for us. Here we raise our Ebenezer, and say, ‘ Hitherto the Lord hath helped us.’ May we never forget his manifold mercies towards us !

“ Ceylon, and especially that part of it where we are stationed, is generally reckoned by all old Indians (Europeans who have been long in India) to be one of the most beautiful countries in this quarter of the globe. It is said to be almost constantly arrayed in green ; and the interior country is formed of clusters of hills, which nobly rise one behind the other as far as the eye can reach. It has daily refreshing sea-breezes and showers ; whereas, on the continent, there is sometimes no rain for many months together : these contribute to render the island far cooler than you otherwise might expect from its being so near the line. It abounds with cocoa-nuts, coffee, and cinnamon ; with plantains, oranges, and pine-apples ; and a plentiful variety of excellent Indian fruits. It also produces the diamond, the pearl, and other precious stones. And, what is best of all, with reference to its religious aspect, ‘ the fields are white already to harvest ;’ but, alas ! ‘ the labourers are few.’ O that the Lord of the harvest would send forth more labourers into this part of his vineyard ! I often wish I had pious brothers who were

disposed to come forward as Missionaries. I would say to them, 'Come over and help us.' Thirty Missionaries would be but a scanty supply for the work that is to be done.

"W— has waited on the senior Chaplain,\* and found him very friendly. I have had the pleasure of seeing his lady. She received me with great kindness, and made many interesting inquiries. The other Chaplain, the Rev. G. Bisset, is on a Bible Society journey. I understand they are both friends to the Missionary work. Indeed, they have been very kind to our dear brethren. W— has been introduced to the Governor's lady ; and she was so good as to express a desire to see me. I have not yet seen Sir Alexander and Lady Johnston ; and Governor Brownrigg † only at a distance, as he has but just returned from Kandy.

"We have formed an acquaintance with Mr. and Mrs. Chater, of the Baptist Mission. They are pious ; and I hope to find a Christian friend and sister in Mrs. C. Also, with a Mr. and Mrs. Armour. Mr. A. was formerly a member of our Society in Ireland and in Gibraltar ; and is now employed by Government to preach to the native Singhalese and Portuguese. He and his good family are very kind ; and we are at present living in their house ; but we hope next week to move into one which has been hired for us, and which is only a short distance from the sea.

"On Good Friday we had an excellent sermon

\* The Hon. and Rev. Doctor Twisleton ; afterwards the Venerable the Archdeacon of Colombo ; and since removed by death. For a brief memorial of him, see the Wesleyan-Methodist Magazine for March, 1825.

† This disinterested friend of our Mission departed this *in May, 1833.*

at church from Mr. Twisleton. His subject was the atonement of Christ. The same day we dined with our Baptist friends ; and in the evening saw the Governor come in from the Kandian country, where he had been to organize the newly-acquired territory. You will have heard of the overthrow of that system of tyranny and cruel despotism which has for so many years prevented European intercourse with the interior of this island. God undertook the cause, and gave their cruel King into the hands of the Governor, together with all his territory, without the loss of any of our troops. Now the way is open for the Gospel into the interior.

“There are very encouraging appearances around us. A few of the natives have been truly converted to God, and evidence, by their life and spirit, that they enjoy the power of real religion. Brother Clough has been made an instrument in the hands of God in the conversion of one of the principal native Priests. The account he has given of the convert is very interesting. It was published in the Government Gazette, and I expect will be inserted in our Magazine in England.\* O, what has God wrought ! And what will he not do ? All power is with him. It is a charming sight to behold the poor Heathen leaving their idols, and falling before the Gospel of Christ. I trust we shall see this more and more. Yesterday, (Easter Monday,) I was much pleased in seeing about three hundred children assembled in the Wolfendahl Dutch church, to whom W—

\* See Wesleyan Magazine, for 1815. The introduction to the account was written by the late Governor Brownrigg.

preached through an interpreter, from, 'Remember now thy Creator,' &c. The greater part were the children of native Heathens. May these dear young ones be drawn from the errors and vices of their parents.

"While at Point-de-Galle, I had the honour of a visit from a moodeliar, or native nobleman, of that district; accompanied by his wife and a long train of attendants. They came in kindness to bid me a welcome to their country. They each had a talipot-leaf carried over their head. This is a singular leaf: it will fold together like a fan, and some pieces of it will spread out wide enough to cover six persons! The moodeliar was a fine-looking man, with a truly dignified appearance. His wife seemed to be of an open and humane disposition. We could not converse much, owing to my ignorance of their language; but as her husband could speak English, we exchanged ideas so far as to satisfy each other of our mutual friendship.

"One evening we had a native congregation assembled on the lawn in front of Mr. Clough's house. I should have said, he has been freely furnished with this house by the generosity of the above moodeliar; who himself lives on the adjoining estate, and often sends him various presents of fruits, milk, and other rarities. The native congregation was to me an exceedingly gratifying sight; being the first that I had seen. Brother Lynch preached the sermon. The interpreter is a moodeliar's son; and we believe a good work of grace is begun in his soul. He holds a respectable situation under Government, but willingly became the channel of communica-

tion with his poorer countrymen on that occasion. We had several similar congregations on our journey to Colombo, whenever we could obtain an interpreter ; and the people were uniformly attentive, and, in retiring, conversed about these new doings, and this new doctrine !

“ You see, my dear father, I have given you some intelligence, which I know will gladden your heart. You will say, ‘ Go on, Lord ; and get to thyself a great name ; and be glorified in many conversions ! ’ Amen.”

No sooner had we reached the place of our ultimate destination, than Mrs. Harvard felt herself at home ; as the above letter will testify. Understanding that among the nominally Christian natives, to whom we had access immediately on our arrival, it was not the custom of the females to attend public worship, except on very particular occasions, she used to accompany me into the country, on my preaching excursions, for the purpose of exciting them to attend the ministry of the word. These efforts were very successful. Our congregations soon included as many women as men. She took a friendly notice of their children, and would speak to them in a familiar way at the conclusion of the services. And though it is not intended to ascribe entirely to her that great change in the native practice which took place at that time ; yet, as it was an object for which she was very solicitous, so it is believed her endeavours had no mean degree of influence, under the divine benediction, in bringing about the pleasing result.

What were the feelings of her own soul in re-

lation to the things of God, may be observed in a few quotations from her diary.

“Colombo, May 22d, 1815.—I have to bless God for a greater nearness to him than I have enjoyed for some time before. Yesterday, in private, I was much blest, and my soul greatly drawn out in prayer for all my dear relatives in England, and especially for my brothers and sisters, that the Lord would convert them to the knowledge of the truth; so that if we meet not again in this lower world, we may assemble together around the throne above, and sing his praises through all eternity. May this be indeed the case, O Lord! Amen.

“It was very profitable to be at our small class-meeting this evening. Praise the Lord! he does fulfil his promise: ‘Wherever two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.’ Help my soul, O Lord, ever to cleave unto thee. Thou art a ‘friend that sticketh closer than a brother!’

“May 24th.—Yesterday I accompanied a party of friends on a truly Missionary excursion. Our visit was to the celebrated Buddhist temple at Kalaany. It was a high festival among the benighted idolaters of these regions; and many had undertaken long journeys in order to be present. It grieved me much to behold on so extensive a scale the darkness of my fellow-creatures, presenting their offerings, and addressing their prayers, to idols of human device, to gods that cannot save! To mark their earnestness and devotion was truly affecting. I could only pity and pray for them. *W—* preached to a great number, declaring the



good news of the ever-blessed Gospel. I hope good was done. The enemy of souls appeared to tremble in this his strong hold, and something of a commotion began to take place; but the Lord was stronger than he. On the whole, we spent a pleasant and profitable day. We returned down the fine river Mootwall, in a large boat decorated with ollas and flowers; and employed ourselves in singing the songs of Zion the whole of the way back.

“May 29th.—I have felt to-day much of the importance of my station; first, as a Preacher’s wife, and secondly, as a mother. May the Lord help me to be faithful to my trust. I hope there is a good work going on in this island. Many appear anxious to hear and become good Christians. Let thy blessed cause, O Lord, flourish, and bring forth, and blossom like the rose. May thousands from among this people be converted to know, and love, and praise thee in life, in death, and to all eternity. Amen.”

On the fourth of June, 1815, our Colombo Sunday-school was commenced, which afforded Mrs. Harvard an opportunity of having a number of Ceylonese females placed under her more immediate care. The whole of the female department was superintended by herself; and her pupils will long preserve a recollection of her regard for them. No letter of hers, containing any reference to this interesting incident in her life, has been preserved within my reach; but her ardent soul greatly rejoiced in the undertaking, and her assistance was most cheerfully rendered.

A few more extracts from her correspondence



and diary will bring us to the conclusion of the year.

### TO HER PARENTS.

“Colombo, September 1st, 1815.—The packets and other things, by poor Lieut. Wade, from Bombay, were, of course, lost in the unfortunate vessel off Portland, the *Alexander*. Dreadful news! How many precious lives were lost! We were intimate with several of the passengers, while at Bombay. Many dear children were on board, going to England for education. But God has removed them from the evil to come.

“To-day we have heard the intelligence of the loss of the *Arniston*, which left this island on the 4th of April, for England. She had many passengers,—Lord and Lady Molesworth among the number; and we hear three hundred persons have perished! Some of them, after having spent many years in this country, were returning to their native land with pleasing prospects before them. But He whose ways are not as ours did not suffer them to go any farther than the Cape of Good Hope; where they were lost in Simon’s Bay, very near the shore.

“Our honourable friends, Mr. and Mrs. Twisleton, had a sweet girl of thirteen years of age on board, returning to England to complete her education; Mr. and Mrs. Chater lost two boys, of seven and nine; and a military officer of this place four. What a trial for the dear parents and friends! The Lord support them! The whole place appears to wear the face of mourning and *sympathy*.

"I have given you dismal tidings ; but this will teach us the uncertainty of all things here below. May such things lead us to God, and animate us to make sure work for eternity ! I am satisfied my dear parents are pressing forward for this. O that this were the case with all my friends ! I trust my dear brothers and sisters are. How happy would this make me ! This I pray for. I am thankful to say, we feel an increasing longing after more holiness ; and, bless God, we feel him to be with us on every hand. Lord, help us ever to cleave to thee ; and then all will be well for ever !

"September, 1815.—In the midst of perplexities and exercises of different descriptions, I must not forget the goodness of God to one of my dear brothers. The Lord make me thankful ! He has been in eleven battles ; and, while many thousands of poor fellows have fallen around him, Providence has shielded him from the sword, and returned him home to my dear distressed parents and family, with only one small wound in his wrist ! O, how great is thy goodness and long forbearance, O Lord ! He has been the child of many prayers : and thou hast hearkened and answered. O, bless the Lord ! May all within me, as well as all belonging to me, be more than ever given up to thee !"

The unassuming qualities of Mrs. Harvard's mind obtained for her the cordial esteem and friendship of a considerable circle in Ceylon. Her own letters to her parents, written in the true spirit of an affectionate child, desirous of satisfying them as to her happiness in her new

station, will include the names of some of her more honourable friends. Of one of those esteemed ladies, the Hon. Mrs. Twisleton, wife of the Archdeacon, gratitude alone would demand an especial mention, on the ground of her maternal attention to Mrs. H. at the birth of our second child. The Archdeacon afterwards did us the honour to unite with Mr. Clough, as a sponsor, at the child's baptism; when he was named by the Rev. George Bisset, John Twisleton, as an expression, on our part, of grateful regard and respect.

In the short space of three months, however, on a journey on account of my health, in which I was accompanied by Mr. Clough and my family, we were bereaved of our lovely boy; and he was interred, with a suitable inscription over his grave, before the pulpit of the Dutch church at Galle.

After our bereavement, Mrs. H. accompanied us in several of our Missionary excursions in the southern districts of the island; and as our communications with the natives were, at that time, principally through the medium of an interpreter, such was the ardour of her soul for the conversion of those benighted idolaters, that she often made use of the same medium to say something to them herself relative to Him who, in her estimation, was ever "the fairest among ten thousand," and the "altogether lovely."

She never, indeed, conceived that the occupation of the pulpit fell within her line of duty. Whatever she might have conceded, in that respect, to the peculiar impressions of duty professed by others, her own views of female obligation led to a different conclusion with respect

to herself. Yet she was "apt to teach;" and with a heart overflowing with the most unaffected love for her race, she generally acted, in a humbler mode, under a sense of duty to impart what little she knew of divine things to any one who appeared to possess less knowledge of them than herself.

The following was written by her while on this journey:—

### TO HER FATHER.

"Point-de-Galle, Ceylon, March, 1816.—By a box we have been sending off to our Missionary Committee, we have forwarded to you one of the most important articles which can be produced by the natives of this country,—a god! or, rather, an idol! Here, were it to be kept, it might prove a temptation to some poor thoughtless pagan! With you it will be a harmless, and, at the same time, an interesting, curiosity. We have sent it to you, that you may see with your eyes, and handle with your hands, one out of the crowd of man-made deities, to which thousands around us are daily bowing and presenting their various offerings. This I have myself often seen, having been at several of their temples. And it would concern you deeply, could you behold with what reverence and awe they bow themselves, and worship before these idols! The name of this deity is Budha. The religion of which he is the object is the prevalent one in this island, two-thirds of the inhabitants professing subjection to it. The image you will have is only a few inches high; but in some of the temples the idol may be seen lying on one side, be-

tween twenty and thirty feet long. I once saw a poor man, just tottering over the grave, praying, to all appearance, in the most earnest manner before an image of that kind.\* O, how it affected me, to see a rational and accountable creature of God so greatly degraded! May this and every other mode of idolatry fall, as Dagon before the ark; and the living God alone be worshipped, and worshipped by all, in spirit and in truth. Five or six of the Priests have embraced Christianity. One of these is with the brethren at this station, and another resides with us at Colombo. The Priests are distinguished from the common people by a yellow robe cast over their bodies; and it needs some humility, as well as courage, to divest themselves of this proud mark of distinction, as they are greatly revered by the people; but when they lay aside their robe from conscientious motives, they are despised.

“Mr. Clough is making great progress in the Singhalese language. W— has begun to preach in the Portuguese. (Mr. Squance has been able to do this for some time.) Since I lost my dear John Twisleton, I have been round this part of the island, with Mr. Clough and him, visiting the native churches and government schools; and have had the pleasure to hear them preach by an interpreter to several large congregations, col-

\* It is supposed, this imaginary deity alone has a greater number of worshippers than our Lord Jesus; even were every nominal Christian in the world accounted a worshipper! Buddhism has many adherents in China, Burmah, and other lands; and is by some supposed to have been one of the ancient superstitions of Britain.

lected for the purpose by a government order. My heart often ached to see so many poor souls perishing for lack of knowledge. Several of their Priests have applied for further instruction. They literally worship they know not what. Thank the Lord, He knows my desires. I wish to be given up entirely to Him, and to 'know nothing but Jesus Christ, and him crucified.'"

The further extracts from her correspondence and diary, to the end of the year, will evince the admirable blendings of a public and private spirit in her character. With all her Missionary ardour, none of her domestic relationships lost their hold on her susceptible heart. She felt as a wife and a mother. Yet, amidst all the claims of that description which more immediately surrounded her in Ceylon, she was not insensible to her earlier ties. Nor were these, on the other hand, with all the excitement they produced, sufficient to abstract her mind from the interests of the great Missionary work.

#### TO HER PARENTS.

"Colombo, April, 1816.—An opportunity offers of sending letters to our highly favoured native land, dear England! And I cannot let it pass without writing to you, my ever-dear parents. We always send to you by every conveyance. Do let us hear from you as often as possible. I long very greatly to see you; yes, indeed I do, to see you all. But this cannot be, at any rate, for some years; if ever I should again in this world. The Lord only knows! But I trust to

meet you around the throne of our heavenly Father. Our chief pleasure, of an earthly kind, is to hear from our dear friends and families in our native land. Indulge us very often.

“ Shall I not hear that —, and —, have begun to inquire what they must do to be saved ? O that all my dear brothers and sisters may be walking in the steps of my dear father ! It will be a crown of rejoicing for you to see all your children and grand-children walking in the truth. The Lord grant this may be the case ! ”

#### TO HER BROTHER GEORGE.

“ Colombo, May 4th, 1816.—From a sister in the East, a few lines, I know, will be acceptable to my very dear brother. It is not necessary for me to assure you how glad your affectionate letter made me. This you would naturally anticipate, especially as it gave me to understand you had once more set out in ‘ the way which leadeth to life.’ The Lord bless you.—When I left home I was exceedingly uneasy about you ; knowing you had fallen from the grace you once possessed and enjoyed. O may this never again be the case, lest God should shut his ears to your cry, or give you over to the hardness of your heart ! But, turning to him as you now have done, you will find him to be a God of love ; full of mercy and tender compassion, and long-suffering ; receiving graciously, and forgiving freely. O my dear George, pray much ; be very much in earnest ; and ‘ stir up the gift of God which is in you,’ that you may be made to increase in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus. ‘ Fight the good fight

of faith. Lay hold on eternal life.' Farewell. God bless you."

Soon after writing this Mrs. H. received information of her brother's decease; to which event she refers in the following letter:—

### TO HER FATHER.

"Colombo, June 26th, 1816.—Sir Alexander Johnston, the Chief Justice, having kindly engaged to enclose a letter to England for me, I cheerfully embrace the opportunity of writing to my very dear father. When I opened your last, and had read a few lines, I was obliged to lay it down, and could proceed in it no further for some time. I found that my dear brother George was no more! O that I had been near you, to behold the affecting scene, and to assist in supporting his dying head. Dear fellow! I did not think when I left him at home, that it was to be a final parting. Nor will it be: 'Thy brother shall rise again.' Yes, Lord; and we shall be caught up together to meet thee in thy kingdom. Amen.

"Reflecting on the death of dear George, and on the manner in which he left this world, I cannot but be thankful for the great mercy of God towards him during his affliction, and in his dying moments. It is this which, in a great measure, softens the trial. O the glory, the glory and happiness, he is now enjoying! Our loss is indeed his gain.

"Mr. Clough very affectionately offered to improve his death; thinking it might be of use to the people of this country, who have no idea



of a soul leaving the body in so triumphant a manner. He preached from, 'Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ;' and after the sermon, read the pleasing account with which you have furnished us. We also had the hymns which George was so fond of, printed for the occasion. The service excited considerable attention; and our preaching-place was as full as it could be, with many standing on the outside.

"I sent you word that I have buried a sweet child at Galle. You see, my dear father, I have been called to part with a son as well as yourself. But it is all well. It is the Lord; let him do what he will: and let us be silent before him. They have both met, ere now, and are

'Far from a world of grief and sin,  
With God eternally shut in.'"

### DIARY.

"Sunday, June 29th, 1816.—Not being well, I was unable to go to church this morning; but, bless God, it has been good for me to wait on him at home. I have found it very profitable to employ my morning in reading a portion of the sacred word; and several accounts of some who are gone to join the happy company above, formed of Jesus, the Mediator of the new covenant, and the spirits of the just made perfect. There God himself shall wipe away all tears from all faces.

"July 20th.—This has been a better week than I have had for some time; yet I am led to cry, with the publican, 'God be merciful unto me, a sinner.' My soul is longing for closer commu-

nion with God. To-day I wrote to sister M<sup>c</sup>Kenny, who has lately arrived, with her good husband, to aid in the blessed work in this part of the world. We are now expecting our brethren from their different stations to attend the Conference. May they come up 'full of the Holy Ghost;' and may our God continue to be in their midst.

"Sunday, 21st.—Our seven o'clock preaching began this morning. One of the newly-arrived brethren gave us a good sermon from John iii. 14. It was delightful to see him possessed of so much of the proper feeling and fervour of his station. I felt it very good to be there. My soul was quickened anew. It reminded me of old days in dear England; and I trust it will be the beginning of good days in this heathen land."

### TO HER PARENTS.

"Mission-House, Colombo, August 26th, 1816.  
—We have just had our small Conference for Ceylon. The newly-arrived brethren made up the number of ten Missionaries! A very reviving sight in this distant and dark part of the earth. We have had preaching, morning and evening, every day since they have been together; and the Lord hath been with them in all their concerns. I believe we are directed of God. I have never been more fully convinced of this than I have lately been; for the presence and power of God have been wonderfully manifested amongst us. This I know you will rejoice to hear. Glory to our God, he has done great things for us; and we will therefore praise him. The brethren have, at this Conference, taken out upon trial two native Mis-

sionaries ; one a respectable country-born young man, and the other a native Malabar, recently a Mahometan. The Lord bless them and make them faithful ministers of Jesus Christ. You see we have made some small degree of progress in our Mission. The praise be to God, who thus far has helped us.

“ This letter is written in our new Mission-house. The chapel will be opened before the end of the year. But for the slowness of the workmen, it might have been sooner finished. We have a very pretty and compact estate here : it includes, in one compound, a chapel, dwelling-house, printing-office, bookbinders' rooms, a type-foundry, school-room, &c., &c. Could you see it, you would be greatly pleased with it. It is situated in a healthy part of the Pettah, or suburb native town. The Colombo chapel is the first that has been erected by our denomination in this quarter of the globe. Glory to our God ! I trust many souls will be born of Him in this house of his. We have several pious people, both among the English soldiers, and the Dutch and native-born.

“ We have lately had another Buddhist Priest, a man of great learning and influence, brought to embrace the religion of our Lord. You will have an account of him, in our Magazine, in England.\* His name is George Nadoris. I have great hopes of him, and have had many serious and interesting conversations with him. In his broken English, he told me, the other day, that he often prayed ; and that he felt himself to be a great sinner, and longed to feel, in his heart, that his

\* See Wesleyan Magazine for 1817 and 1819.

sins were forgiven. I have found it good to talk to him about the love of God in the gift of his blessed Son to die for our sins; and the Holy Spirit, to make us polluted worms meet for heavenly bliss; and he has appeared much pleased with the notice I have taken of him. When speaking of the Almighty, he always says, 'My God.'

"A few months ago, this Priest was ignorant as to who made him, and the world in which he lives, and the heavens above him. Indeed, he says, it never occurred to him that there was any great Creator; but he imagined that all things came into existence by mere chance. Now he sees that it is only 'the foolish' who think, in their hearts, 'there is no God.' May he more fully know Him whom to know is life eternal, and become, to his benighted countrymen, a useful minister of the Lord Jesus.

"Before he left his temple, where he was the chief Priest, he invited W—to preach there; and I had the pleasure to hear him discourse, in consequence, at the temple door, to a congregation of Buddhist Priests and others, from 1 Cor. viii. 4, 'We know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but one.' One of the provincial Judges was present; and it was a service, I hope, the poor pagan auditors will not forget. I afterwards went, with our party, to inspect the Priest's dwelling-house, and his library, which is a very extensive and valuable one, containing many royal and noble presents which he received in the countries where he has travelled. But all this he has lost by embracing Christianity; and his temple has fallen into other hands.

“The climate of Madras \* is much hotter than that of Colombo; and, feeling greatly relaxed here, of course we shall feel much more so there. However, I am willing to go any where, where God may call us, even to the ends of the earth. I should be happy to traverse those parts of Africa where our friend Mr. Campbell has been. I feel my mind quitte given up to the Missionary work. I should like to go from hut to hut, and talk to the poor Heathen. I am learning the Singhalese language; and hope to do so, in time. I generally accompany W— to the different villages in the neighbourhood when he preaches, for the purpose of inciting and encouraging the poor native women to attend. This brings many of them out, who otherwise would not hear the word of God. So that I hope I am of *some* use. When I look at the borders of the wide ocean which separates me from you, I heave the sigh of nature. But we are where the Lord would have us to be. Let us rather be thankful that we are called to engage in his glorious work. It is, indeed, a high and holy calling.”

#### TO HER BROTHER S——.

“Colombo Mission-House, Oct. 25, 1816.—It is with heartfelt pleasure, my very dear brother, that I sit down to converse with you a little on paper;—a pleasure I never expected; as I feared, long since, that my dear S. had been numbered with the dead! But, thank the Lord, that while thousands have been slain before your eyes, yet

\* *To which place we had been appointed to proceed by our Missionary Committee in London.*

you are still living to praise him ! No one can tell what have been the sufferings of my mind on your account. About a year since, I heard that you had been home on a visit, and that you had been in eleven battles, and escaped with only one wound ! I gave hearty thanks to the Lord for this deliverance. But, when I was informed of your return to France, and of that dreadful Waterloo conflict, I gave up all hopes of ever hearing that you had again escaped the ravages of cruel war ! But, thank God, he has been better to you than all my fears. I have read several accounts of that dreadful battle ; and O, how thankful have I felt, in my very soul, that my dear S. was one of those who escaped with life ! Surely, I have thought, he is saved through prayer ! Many have prayed for you : your dear parents, and brothers and sisters, have all prayed for you ; many pious and believing friends of our family have done the same ; and I hope you have also prayed for yourself. Your brother and I have not ceased to remember you at the throne of grace ; and your dear brother George, who is now in heaven, used to pray much and fervently for you.

“ It is now some years since I saw you ; and, perhaps, we shall never meet again in this world, greatly as I should love to see you. If not, let us make sure work for heaven, that we may happily meet there !

“ Before I conclude, suffer me to ask you how you felt in the field of battle. Very unhappy, no doubt. I suppose you gave yourself up for dead. What did you think would become of you in the event of your fall ? My dear S. will allow me to ask him these questions, as they are suggested by love. If I had had any ground for hope as to

the safety of your soul, I should not have been so excessively uneasy; because we must die, sooner or later; but I feared all was not right in that respect. I am sure you will excuse my telling you my fears. And O, my dear brother, think on this. Be thankful that God showed you so much mercy, and did not cut you down in your sins; and seek an interest in the blood of Christ, the forgiveness of all your sins.

"The Lord is ready to receive you. His arms are open wide to bid you welcome. The word of God assures us, that he willeth not the death of a sinner, but that he should turn from his wickedness and live. This you will read in Ezekiel. Let me beg of you to read the whole of that book through, and Jeremiah also. The Lord bless his word, and give you a heart to understand and receive it. Give your heart to God. Delay no longer. Time is short, even at the longest.

"O my dear S., think on these things. What would I not give to hear that you were in earnest for your soul! O, how my heart yearns towards you! Let me soon hear from you, and tell me every thing. Open your mind freely to your own sister, who loves you, and will do any thing in her power to help you, though far away in a foreign land. Farewell."

It is encouraging to be able to add, in this stage of her correspondence, that with respect to her own family, Mrs. Harvard did not altogether labour in vain. In every case, indeed, she was not so happy as to prove successful. But may her fervent, and affectionate, and well-adapted appeals be like bread cast on the waters, and yet *be seen, though after many days!* Amen.

## PART III.

FROM THE CONCLUSION OF THE YEAR 1816,  
UNTIL HER DEPARTURE FROM INDIA.

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“Those women which laboured with me in the Gospel.”  
—ST. PAUL.

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THE ardour and activity of Mrs. Harvard's soul, united with the effects of the climate, and several attacks of severe illness, had, on her entrance on the fourth year of residence within the torrid zone, reduced her frame, naturally delicate, to a state of considerable debility. Very painful depressions of spirit, of which the enemy of souls took a frequent advantage, to her disquiet, were the melancholy consequence of her disordered habit of body. To this circumstance she often alludes in her confidential papers. But in the promised strength of a compassionate Saviour, she continued to maintain her Christian warfare, now and then obtaining an encouraging conquest; and, in the midst of all her variations of internal feeling, diligently persevering in the cheerful discharge of the duties of her important station.

Our new place of worship in Colombo having been completed by the end of the year 1816, she claimed the honour of making with her own hands the cushion which was to bear the pulpit Bible. She lost no opportunity of discovering any thing,



in the course of our public proceedings, to which she might, with a sense of consistency, afford her helping hand.

By the blessing of God, our Colombo Sunday-school prepared the minds of the native objects of our Mission for the establishment of day-schools for the youth of both sexes. The female department of each school, on the Colombo station, naturally fell under Mrs. Harvard's superintendence. In this new labour of love she greatly rejoiced to be employed ; and it was with evident advantage to the several interesting institutions that she paid them monthly visits of examination, in addition to occasional calls, and her constant oversight. Her correspondence with an honourable lady, who kindly patronized one of our principal schools, has been preserved, to mark the nature of her interest in this branch of our undertaking.

On finding that the Rev. John Callaway had included the female department in some of his Matura schools, she was so gratified with this mark of attention to her sex, on the part of an unmarried brother, that she resolved to encourage his noble beginnings, by herself making up some small articles of reward for him to take to them on his return from the Conference to his station. These were the first pincushions, housewives, &c., that were distributed in the Ceylon Mission schools. Her correspondence with England on the subject, of which a specimen is preserved in a letter to one of her sisters, assisted to procure an early and liberal donation of similar rewards from our pious and generous countrywomen at home. And it has now happily become the prevailing

mode among those amiable and valuable friends of Missions, thus to employ some of their spare moments in keeping up the beneficial supply of such articles of native encouragement.\*

Her continued tone of personal piety, as well as public spirit, is pleasingly presented before us in her letters and diary for this year. These most powerfully express how earnestly she strove to walk with God ; and how anxious she remained for the salvation of all within the reach of her influence, and especially in regard to the tenderly beloved members of her own family.

#### TO MISS M., LONDON.

“ Mission-House, February 27th, 1817.—Since I parted with you, how various have been the scenes through which we have had to pass ! But, praised be the Lord, goodness and mercy have followed us thus far.

“ Perhaps my dear Mary may wish to know if I have repented leaving my dear father, mother, brothers, sisters, friends, and my native land ; as she knows all these were, and indeed still are, very dear to me. I thank God I can answer in the negative. I believe it was of the Lord. I have the comfort to feel that my heart is more and more in our work ; and I trust my Saviour will in some way or other make me useful. Help me by your entreaties at the throne of grace. I am

\* Contributions of this or any other description are thankfully received by any of our Ministers in the United Kingdom, or by the Resident Secretary, at the Mission House, 77, Hatton-Garden, London. Plain and suitable articles of clothing, however, are now more in request, and, on some Missionary stations are more calculated to be useful.

confident you will. I would not but have been engaged in this Mission on any account. O, what am I, that the Lord should have counted me worthy of so high an honour !

“ We have a pretty little cause in this place. You would be delighted, could you see how happy we are. The work of God prospers in our hands in a small measure. It is this which gives us joy ; and I know the information will make you a sharer therein. We have two classes, formed at this station : one in the Fort, chiefly composed of European soldiers ; the other principally of natives, which meets at our Mission-House in the Pettah. Some who join with us are rejoicing in God their Saviour ; others are earnestly seeking his favour ; and more are coming forward. Before long I hope you will hear of greater things than these. May we not be disappointed !

“ Our new chapel, which is named ‘ The Wesleyan Mission-House,’ was opened on the 22d of December last. It was truly a high day to us. I cannot express what were our feelings, in being favoured so far with the accomplishment of our fondest desires. But it was a good day. The Lord was with us at both the services. Indeed, I felt so much overpowered with the presence of God, that I could not refrain from tears of joy, at beholding another house raised for his service in this place of idolatry, and superstition, and darkness ! Our brother Clough preached an excellent sermon in the morning. W— had to conduct the evening service. But you will have all the particulars in the Magazine ; as this same packet will carry letters to our Committee.\*

\* See Wesleyan Magazine.

" I am happy to find from our recent English letters, that four more Missionaries are coming out to our assistance. Thank the Lord for this joyful news. We indeed want help: the harvest truly is great, and the labourers are too few. However, we must not complain. Our Society in England have been very good to us. They have far exceeded our expectations in the noble support they have given to the Asiatic Mission. But I must say I wish they would send a few sisters. I am much alone, and should be happy to have a near companion belonging to our own Mission. Sister M'Kenny has lately arrived from the Cape of Good Hope, but resides at a station seventy or eighty miles from us, so that we can only correspond together, but are unable to render each other any personal service. She has two sweet little boys, John and William. Brother Squance was married in September last; but he and his wife are stationed in a much more distant place. I am sorry to say his health is seriously affected.

" My little boy is now nearly two years and a half old, and begins to lisp in three languages. We often smile at him: when speaking to his father, or the female servant, it is in Portuguese; to me, in English; and to the Singhalese servant, in his language. Some time back I commenced the study of the Singhalese. Owing to my late illness, I have been obliged to desist for a time, but hope soon to get at it again. When our little fellow hears my Singhalese teacher pronouncing the different characters, you would be astonished how quickly he catches the sound: much sooner, I think, than myself. May the Lord early in-

fluence his tender mind with his grace, and make him useful in his church. His father hopes to see him a young Missionary; and says, should he become converted, he shall be glad to introduce him into the same blessed work in which he himself is engaged. O that it may be the case! I am sure nothing would rejoice me so much as to see him employed in advancing the glorious cause!

"I sometimes feel the loss of the Christian society and intercourse with which I was blessed, and which I used so greatly to prize, when in my native land. I often look back on the sweet opportunities I then enjoyed, and wish I could again have them. But why should I indulge such a wish? God is the same now he was then; and is as present in the east, as in the west, the north, or the south. 'Do not I fill heaven and earth?' saith the Lord!' This I have proved. Often have I felt his presence, on the mighty ocean, and on the sultry shore; and, at this time, I feel that,

' My Jesus to know,  
And feel his blood flow,  
'Tis life everlasting, 'tis heaven below!'

"I intended to give you some account of our Colombo Sunday-school, which would greatly interest you; but time and space forbid. I hope to do it in a future letter. Wishing you every temporal and spiritual blessing, I remain," &c.

TO HER BROTHER J—.

"Mission-House, Colombo, Whit-Monday,  
1817.—

' 'Tis religion that can give  
Real comfort while we live!

'Tis religion must supply,  
Solid comfort when we die !'

" This you saw in the death of your dear brother George. In his dying chamber you were a witness how religion supported him, in passing over Jordan ; how it enabled him to look across the stream to those celestial shores, where he is now enjoying what he then so gloriously anticipated. My dear brother, these were the blessed effects of real religion. Let us follow him, and ere long we shall triumph as he did.

" I am now sitting at my bed-room window, beholding one of the finest sights I ever saw. Our new chapel or Mission-House is filled in every part with dear native Ceylonese children. You would, I am persuaded, be much pleased to be near me, and see so many poor little black faces, hearing the word of God in this dark part of the earth ! My window is near enough for me to see and hear all that is passing in the chapel. Your brother is preaching to them in English ; and our friend Mr. Armour is interpreting the sermon to them, sentence by sentence, into the native language : so that they are able to understand, and appear very attentive to what is said.

" Such an assembly of poor native children is truly interesting, particularly in this heathen land. It is our custom to have such a service for the children every Christian festival. I remember to have felt much on similar occasions in my own dear country. But I must say, this far exceeds any thing I ever saw in England ; because these dear creatures have not had the advantages of English children. Many of them have been born

of heathen parents; and some of them never heard any thing of God, before our arrival in the country !”

### DIARY.

“ May 10th, 1817.—For the last few months my mind has been greatly harassed by the enemy of souls. My temptations have been very various and distressing; and no one but God has known what I have had to pass through. Indeed, my suffering of soul has at times been so great, as wholly to unfit me for attention to any thing whatever, whether spiritual or temporal. But I cried mightily to my God and Father in Christ Jesus; and he who knew the exact state of my mind, graciously heard, and deigned to pity and deliver me. Now I can truly say, that he has been better to me than all my fears. Hitherto he hath helped me. I bless his holy name.”

### TO HER FATHER.

“ Mission-House, May 28th, 1817.—Well, my father, let me thank you for your last letter. It was a great blessing to us. We were thankful to find you so happy in God. May your children all drink deeply of the same living water of salvation. Lord, evermore give us this water, and that bread which endureth unto everlasting life.

“ A short time since my soul was greatly cast down. Being too much careful and cumbered about many things, a cloud interposed between me and the Sun of Righteousness, so that I did not feel his healing beams as in seasons past. This

caused me feelings of a very painful kind. None, but He who searcheth the hearts, knows what I passed through, during that distressing period. When aiming to lift my heart to God, my prayers have been spiritless and vain. But, blessed be God, it was a bondage of short duration. Verily the Lord hath heard my prayer : he hath delivered my soul, and I will praise him.

‘ Still let me, till my days are past,  
At Jesu’s feet abide ;  
So will he lift me up at last,  
And seat me by his side.’ ”

In July, this year, our third child was born ; but, at the age of five days, was taken off by an illness which produced a locked jaw,—an affliction often fatal to infants in that country. The bereavement was, however, not anticipated by Mrs. H., and was severely felt by her, though she was enabled to say with genuine submission, “ The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away : blessed be the name of the Lord.”

The Archdeacon kindly lent us one of his carriages to convey the mortal remains of our child to the house appointed for all the living. He was interred in the Pettah burial-ground, by my affectionate brethren ; and a stone, inscribed to his memory, is placed in the floor of our Colombo chapel, between the two tablets erected in remembrance of Dr. Coke and Mr. Ault.

Mrs. Harvard was not sufficiently invigorated to write much until the September following ; when she appears to be again animated with her customary piety and ardour.



## TO THE HON. LADY —.

“ Mission-House, September, 1817.—It is with heartfelt pleasure I find another opportunity of time and strength to write to your Ladyship, and acknowledge your truly sympathising letter. I am sure you have felt for me in my late affliction. But I trust it is all well. What the Lord does is always right. Still I have found it a very severe trial ; having promised myself much comfort in that dear babe.

“ I was happy to hear that your health was no worse, but rather better. O may our God fully restore you to your former state of health, for the sake of your dear family. This, my very dear Lady, it will afford me, and indeed all of us, great pleasure to hear, if you will favour me with a few lines when you reach England's happy shore. And the voyage and change of scene will, I hope, be the means of effecting this.

“ It gave me great pleasure to have so good an account of Mrs. Gibson's school ;\* and I trust, the one at Colpetty, on which you have bestowed so much, will also, in time, give us much satisfaction. I have not been able to visit it very lately ; but from conversation with the master, I find that both boys and girls are advancing, and that some of the latter can already read in the New Testament. This it will gratify your Ladyship to hear.

\* An excellent orphan establishment, founded by Mrs. Gibson, of Galle, at a period of scarcity, when many children were forsaken of their parents, owing to the difficulty of procuring food. By this generous lady, the perishing outcasts were provided with both a home and an education.

“ I understand they are also making improvement in their needlework and marking ; and, as soon as I can procure them the pins, they shall be taught to make lace ; which will be a considerable indulgence and source of encouragement to them. We shall be very thankful to adopt any other plan you will be kind enough to suggest. I am now about making them a few rewards, such as pincushions, housewives, &c., &c., to take with me on my next visit, which I hope will be very soon ; and no doubt I shall have a pleasing account to give.”

#### TO THE SAME.

“ Mission-House, Colombo.—We are obliged by your Ladyship’s remarks respecting what the school-children should learn ; and think that learning the lace-making should be, as you say, a reward to the best workers. Button and bobbin making will be additions to that kind of reward ; and I shall think it a favour if you will have the goodness to send us a pattern button. I have sent them a little plain work this week.

“ I hope, my dear Lady, during your voyage, you will be as comfortable as a ship will allow. A very few months may carry you safely to England. We shall feel it our duty to remember you and yours, daily, at our family altar, before that God of all our mercies, who hath said, ‘ I will never leave, I will never forsake thee.’ He is over the seas, ever present, as well as on the dry land. He maketh the winds and waters to obey him. He is all power, and nothing is too hard for him. It is a mercy to be in the hands of

so kind and loving a God ; who graciously giveth his angels charge concerning us, to keep us in all our ways."

### TO HER SISTER SARAH.

" Colombo, November 9th, 1817.—Sitting and talking about you all, last night, we remembered that this would be your birth-day ; and I write, my dear Sarah, to convince you we do not forget you, though so widely separated from you. Not a day passes by, but you have a share in our humble and earnest prayers ; and I trust our entreaties in your behalf will be heard and answered. We feel the welfare of your soul lie near our hearts. It is precious. Jesus died to save it. For its ransom his precious blood was paid.

' Well He remembers Calvary ;  
Nor let our souls forget.'

" Well, dear Sarah, I heartily wish you, if it please God, many, many happy returns of this day ; and may growth in grace, and in years, happily keep pace with each other. I should be glad to be near, and advise you now you are rising up into life. The Lord be with you, my dear girl, and guide and preserve you from every evil."

### TO HER FATHER.

" Mission-House, November 23d, 1817.—When I was so long afflicted in Bombay, I remember, at one time I thought it hard, and wondered my *illnesses were of such long continuance*. I used

to grieve, when I saw one and another, confined after I was, who were so soon able to go about, with their little ones, while I remained a suffering prisoner. But the Lord gave me to see there was a needs-be for all my affliction ; that it was designed to bring me nearer to himself ; and he gave me grace then to be satisfied with his dispensations towards me. I could then bless God for putting me into the furnace. I was no longer anxious to recover. My supreme wish was to have my sufferings sanctified to my soul's good. All appeared to be mercy ; and indeed it was. I now look back on that affliction with pleasure and thankfulness. In that season of trial I learned much, and can say with David, ' It is good for me that I have been afflicted.'

" Thank God, we feel we are just in the place in which he would have us to be. We are engaged in a glorious cause ; and we begin now to see the dawning of a blessed day. The clouds are dispersing ; the sun shines, and we begin to feel its warmth : days of mercy are before us. We have a few around us who are truly converted to God, and living in the enjoyment of true religion. They bless God that he ever inclined the hearts of Missionaries to come over and help them. One of our native converts said to me the other day, ' I very glad Missionaries come to this island. If they not come, I should not know the God, nor the way to heaven ; but now me know and is very happy, and is not afraid to die !' This young man understands English imperfectly, but is very pious and simple. He has been one of our interpreters, and has begun to preach to his countrymen. Several

more of the natives are coming forward. Blessed be God for so pleasing a prospect before us :—

‘ Haste, happy day—the day I long to see,  
When every child of Adam shall be free ! ’ ”

### TO HER FATHER.

“ Mission-House, Nov. 28th, 1817.—I believe in my last I told you we have several more Buddhist Priests in a very hopeful state of mind. One of them has, I trust, been brought in sincerity to worship the true God. He appears to be a happy Christian, and loves divine things so far as he is enlightened. He has travelled in several countries, being a friend of George Nadoris, the celebrated Ava Priest. We have taken him out as a kind of teacher. He is living with our brother Newstead, at Negombo, who is much pleased with him. Out of respect to our dear father, and brother Clough, we named him Benjamin Parks.

“ When I told him that Parks was the name of my father, and had shown him your portrait, and given him some account of you, tears came in his eyes, and he said he hoped he should never live to bring any disgrace upon that name. He is a good honest creature. I know my dear father will pray for his namesake, that he may prove a faithful follower of Christ. If you can send him some little thing from England, for me to give him, as from yourself, it will greatly please him. I should like you to write him a short letter, and make him a present of some religious book, with his name written in it with your own hand. This would do him good ; and no doubt the Lord will add his *blessing*.

“My dear father, I am sure you would like to be with us. I often wish you were. Your heart would burn with love to the poor Ceylonese. Poor things, they are very ignorant; but the Lord Jesus can make them wise. As you cannot come out to the field of action, you must help us at home. You may be useful to the good cause by your mite and your prayers.”

### TO HER SISTER SUSAN.

“Colombo, November, 1817.—You are at an age, my very dear Susan, in which you will be liable to many evils and snares; and I have not ceased to pray that the Lord would keep you from being injured by the influence of a vain and deceitful world. Should you have declined from the good way, let me entreat you not to be satisfied without God! Begin to set out afresh for the kingdom. God is willing to receive you; angels are anxious to carry the pleasing intelligence to the heavenly throng. Jesus waits to be gracious; his blood is pleading; his arms are opened wide; his promises are yours. O, delay not! Delays are dangerous! Now is the day of salvation. Pray much in private: open your soul to God; tell him what you feel, and he will bless you. Read your Bible much; yes, I would have you read it sometimes on your knees; and the Lord enlighten your understanding, and open your heart to receive his truth and himself.

‘Go on to know and fear the Lord,  
And practise what you know’

My dear girl, I love you very much; and am

much interested in your behalf. The Lord bless you.

“When you last wrote, you promised me some pincushions, and now I shall be very thankful for a few; together with any other little curious article you can make. I am not begging for myself, but for the good cause. We have lately established some native Mission Schools, for the education of Ceylonese boys and girls. The female department of these schools forms an interesting part of my care; and on the first of every month, when not prevented by illness, I accompany your brother in the regular visitation of such of them as are not at too great a distance from the Mission-House. I assure you I have been much gratified in my visits; as you would be, could you see our dear young pupils, with their white jackets and dark faces; and, I bless God, that in this way, it is possible for poor me to be of some little service in the great work of the Mission.

“The Hon. Lady Johnston has accompanied us, and has taken much notice of the native females; talking to them, and rewarding them with pincushions, housewives, &c., of her own making. This has had a good effect on the minds of the poor children, as well as on their parents; who think highly of any mark of distinction which their children receive from Europeans.

“I wish much to go on with the plan if possible. I am myself making some rewards, and shall be very happy to receive any little simple thing from home. It will be the more valued as coming from England-su-terra, as they call it, or England's country. The cost to you will be but trifling; *and you cannot tell what good you may be in-*

strumental in producing, by sending a little Ceylonese girl a pincushion, or an housewife, or any thing else of the kind. It stimulates them to application in their learning, to be rewarded even in this small way ; and makes them value the more the instructions they receive from us. And I am happy to tell you, that in some of the children good and saving impressions are very visible.

“ If you can get any of your young friends to assist you in this labour of love, it will enable you to make the supply so much the more ample ; and you will allow me to add, ‘ the more the better.’

“ The importance of educating the native girls is very considerable. By the blessing of God, a religious education will not only tend to the advancement of their own salvation, but the better qualify them to act as wives and mothers, should they be spared to fill those stations. *The heathen females are the main support of paganism.* Some of our native converts have repeatedly confessed that their almost unconquerable bias to idolatry arose from the example of their mothers, whose attachment to heathenish worship and ceremonies was such as to lead them to carry their children to the temples as soon as they were able to go out ; and while infants, to put their little hands together, and teach them to bow before their senseless images. If then we can succeed with the mothers of the next generation, how much of this will be prevented ! They will teach their little dears to bow to Jesus instead of idols.

“ I have been for some time learning the Singhalese language, that I may converse with our school girls without an interpreter ; and though I



have been greatly interrupted by family afflictions, yet am now able to spell small words, and hope soon to be able to read. Perhaps in my next letter I may write you the Lord's Prayer in the Singhalese character."

From these extracts it will be seen how heartily Mrs. Harvard espoused the cause of female education,—a cause which, previous to this date, had been universally neglected in Ceylon; so that our schools were an entire novelty. In this most appropriate department of labour she appeared to much advantage. The following description of one of her Native-School scenes is from a letter written by myself in Dec., 1817 :—

"Last week, in examining the Colpetty school, after having distributed some calico jackets, and a few honorary distinctions to the poor and the deserving in the girls' division, Mrs. Harvard had them crowding around her chair, while she asked them a few questions about God, and the Bible, and other general subjects. In this part of her much-loved employment, she felt her heart quite enlarged towards the dear girls. And while proceeding to speak to them concerning the love of our Lord Jesus, in dying for sinners, and the promises of God to those who believe in, and love him, happening to lift up her eyes on the interesting little group of black faces which stood before her, she had the gratification to see the mistress and several of the girls so deeply affected, as not to be able to restrain the tears which flowed down their cheeks. These were the sincere effusions of their tender hearts, under the purest impressions of divine things."

The Colombo day-schools, at that comparatively early period, included about one hundred and sixty female pupils; and it may be ascribed to the spirit thus diffused among them, that some of the mistresses, and not a few of the girls, became decidedly religious. In two of the schools a female class of this description existed; and two of the children out of one of the classes, Carolina, and Maria Magdelina, died, during a season of mortality in their village, the happy witnesses of the saving and renewing efficacy of the religion which they had found at the Mission School. Others, by this time, have reached the years of maturity, and are exemplifying the calculation with which, in her letter to her sister Susan, Mrs. H. endeavoured to animate her to co-operation in the blessed work of female education.

It was not merely within the precincts of the school-house that her usefulness was felt. The part she took in these institutions naturally extended the circle of her acquaintance, both among European and native females. The former, her respectable countrywomen, she would sometimes prevail upon to honour the infant establishments with their visits and attentions; and while, in her correspondence, she was aiming to interest them for the benefit of her native charge, she was indirectly endeavouring to be profitable to themselves. But especially among the native females did she feel herself the most at liberty in dispensing what little knowledge she had been so happy as to acquire; and, knowing that words are only of consequence as they are signs of our ideas, she could, in such associations, lay aside

the precision of grammatical accuracy, and had a happy facility in adopting their broken English, which was to them a more intelligible medium of communication.

She had also acquired a little of the Portuguese of the country; and, when no better means were at hand of making herself understood in conversation, she was willing to run the risk of a smile at her own expense: but the affection of her heart rendered her eloquent, independent of language. With a view of intercourse with the purely Singhalese females, she paid considerable attention to their language; but affliction and domestic engagements often hindered her ardent mind in this difficult acquisition. Our friend Don Cornelius de Silva Wijasingha, now an assistant Missionary, was her instructor; and though she left the country before she had made much progress, yet she wrote the native character very well. But she succeeded better in learning to make lace, in which she was instructed by a person who had received a Dutch education; it being her design to superintend the introduction of this art among our female pupils, as an encouragement for attention to their learning.

An indifferent biographer could scarcely avoid a sigh at observing, that at this interesting period of her life, his materials should conduct him to an interruption of her active, and important, and useful career. The late esteemed and pious Mrs. Fox, at the Caltura station, being near her confinement, and at a distance from European advice, Mrs. Harvard was requested to provide her a suitable nurse from among the soldiers' wives in Colombo. She succeeded in engaging a very

clever woman, who had but one fault ; and that was, a habit of intoxication. In every other respect, the nurse was a most desirable person ; especially considering the distance from any medical man. And she determined herself to accompany her, in order to watch over this infirmity, and afford any additional assistance in her power to her beloved Missionary sister. The journey was not quite thirty miles ; but, considering the difficulties of conveyance, was perhaps equal to one of four times the distance in this country.

Mrs. Harvard had the happiness of finding all well at Caltura. Mrs. Fox was favoured with a son, and I baptized the little stranger, William. Unfortunately, however, before the first week had elapsed, the nurse eluded the vigilance of her observers ; intoxicated herself with arrack ; and, lying down to sleep in the ruins of an old fort, was not to be found for many hours. In the mean time, her mistress could not be disregarded. Mrs. Harvard found a great pleasure in paying every attention in her power. But the over-exertion, in such a climate, produced an illness, which, from its serious indications, for some time endangered her own life. It pleased God to hear prayer ; and, though in the most perilous stage she had no female attendant, her life was preserved. With the utmost anxiety, I conveyed her to Colombo as soon as possible, that she might have professional advice ; but, on the road, the intermittent or jungle fever attacked her as we were crossing a river, and carried the work of debility on, almost to its extreme point.

It was very distressing to behold the suffer-

ings of mind to which she was reduced, owing to the effects of this complication of illness upon her nervous system. One of the least offending of the fallen children of Adam,—one of the most conscientious of the restored children of God in Christ Jesus,—she was, nevertheless, subject to the most gloomy fears of death, and apprehensions of final perdition. No longer capable of that ardent feeling of devotion, so familiar to her in a state of health, she frequently sat in judgment on herself; and, in its absence, pronounced herself to be graceless. Distressing suggestions, affecting her views of the validity of the Gospel, the efficacy of prayer, and even the existence of God, by their continual re-action, seemed to be involving her in an inextricable labyrinth of doubt, and fear, and self-abhorring, and melancholy, with all their attendant temptations.\* There were but two friends, one in heaven and one on earth, to whom she could venture to communicate her exercises; and to the latter she often used an affectionate reserve, from the fear of producing, in the mind of that friend, the same distressing habits.

The medical man advised her immediate removal to a colder climate; but, as a separation between us could not be effected, she would not listen to any proposals which went to remove me from the blessed Missionary work,—a work at all times great and glorious in her estimation. To such an alternative, she preferred that she herself should sink under the effects of climate. By


\* Let me encourage all under similar exercises to persevere in seeking the sinner's Friend! Luke xix. 10; Ps. xxx. 5; Jonah ii.

the divine blessing, however, in a few months she greatly recovered her tone of mind and system, though the restoration was never complete.

Her continuance in Ceylon, while it subjected her to daily inconvenience and suffering, was not submitted to in the spirit of one who makes an unwilling sacrifice. A letter to her parents, at this date, will show the readiness with which she identified herself with the good work, in an interval of recruited health and spirits:—

#### TO HER PARENTS.

“Mission-House, Colombo, Aug. 15th, 1818.—When I last wrote, I was recovering from a serious illness; the effects of which I feel to this day. For though I am thankful my general health is greatly restored, yet my nervous system is so relaxed and shattered, that I am fearful it will be some considerable time before I regain the strength I have lost. The medical gentleman has advised my dear W—— to return with me to my native climate; giving it as his opinion, that this country will no longer agree with either him or me. But to such a measure we both feel, at present, very reluctant. Though we should, indeed, be glad to see you all again, yet, I must say, *our hearts are still in Ceylon*. We are longing to see the good work spreading among the Heathen. And thank God for what our eyes have been favoured to see; for what he has done, and is still doing! Though we have had some matters of discouragement, we have abundantly greater reason to be encouraged. Many have



been brought to know God as their Saviour, who never might have known him, had we remained at home. Indeed, I have heard many say, with tears in their eyes, had we not visited their country, they must have remained in their ignorance and darkness; and they bless God that he ever inclined our hearts to come to them.

“ We expect much from our Native Schools. In some of them we have already seen classes of piously disposed children rising up; and, from their altered conduct, we have good reason to believe that they are truly serious, and earnestly seeking to know, and love, and serve the only true God! When engaged in visiting them, I often wish our dear English friends, and the friends of Missions in general, could see them. I am sure they would be delighted. I can say, I feel my own heart truly engaged in this good work; and, much as I love and wish to see you, I should be very sorry to leave yet. Pray that our bodies may be suited to the climate, and that our souls may be filled with grace and zeal for the cause of God among the poor worshippers of idols. It must be a pleasing reflection to my dear father, when he thinks of our being so well employed in a work he so much loves; and, in which, I have heard him say, if he were young, he should be happy to be himself engaged! Though it must have been a severe trial to you to part with us, (and it was such to us to part with you,) yet the Lord, by his mercy and grace, at the last enabled you cheerfully so to do. But I must say, that, since I have become myself a parent, my feelings have *been somewhat different*; and I have often won-



dered how it was that you could give us up. It was surely the Lord's doings."

But it was not the will of Providence that this noble-minded servant of his should any longer, at such an expense of personal inconvenience, be engaged in his Missionary field of action. It was well that it was in her heart to die in the work, rather than prove an impediment to it; but this ultimate sacrifice was not required at her hands. A serious illness, at the close of this year, incapacitated me for any further Missionary employment; and to preserve my life, a prompt removal to our native land was thought necessary. When Mrs. Harvard saw that the avenue of usefulness was thus closed before us by the hand of Providence, she felt it quite consistent with her sense of duty to make preparations for returning to England. Her letter announcing this circumstance evinces, at the same time, that none of our afflictions had alienated her heart from the Missionary work.

### TO HER PARENTS.

"Mission-House, Colombo, October 4, 1818.— God has again visited us by affliction. My dear W—— has been brought very near the gates of death; but in tender mercy the Lord is raising him up again, I trust, for greater usefulness; though, I fear, not for usefulness in this country. This is a cause of trial to us. The Doctor has forbidden his preaching any more in his present state; and says he must depart for England as soon as possible, the only ground on which he can



hope to resume his labours resting upon the bracing effects of a colder climate. Another attack of illness in this country, he is of opinion, would prove fatal. So, it is possible that, soon after you receive this letter, you will see us. O may the Lord direct us in this matter! We can say, with great truth, we have no wish to leave this country at present. No! The Lord knoweth our hearts: we could not have thought of returning, even to England, and to home, until we had seen more done for his glory in this place; but our kind brethren think it right that we should leave. It may be the saving of my dear husband's life, and the means of his advancing the interests of the Mission at home. Should we be spared to see each other once more, O what a tale of mercy and goodness will you have to relate to us, and we to you!"

At the close of this year, Mrs. Harvard sustained the loss of a sincerely beloved friend, in the death of Mrs. Fox. The following respectful notice of our excellent sister appeared in the Ceylon Government Gazette, Saturday, December 5th, 1818:—

"Death.—Early in the morning of the 3d instant, at the Mission-House, Galle, whither she had been removed for the change of air, the wife of the Rev. W. B. Fox, Wesleyan Missionary, of Caltura; leaving two infant children to learn the greatness of their loss, and an affectionate husband, and many friends, to cherish the remembrance of her Christian virtues and excellencies.

"This much-respected lady, having abandoned the comforts of her own domestic circle, in order to accompany her husband in his Missionary line of duty, unhappily brought with her, to this island, a constitution which had been seriously undermined by the effects of a violent cold, caught in England, which finally terminated in a consumption.

"For many months her numerous and affectionate friends have been buoyed up with those hopes of her recovery, which that uncertain, but fatal complaint, frequently excites. She had even appeared to derive effectual relief from the removal from Caltura to Galle. But an unerring Providence has disappointed their fond expectations: yet, while they bow with submission to the stroke, they will continue to lament her loss."

Just before our departure from Colombo, we received two of the first boxes of rewards sent from England, for our Native Schools. On the Christmas-day, when, as is usual on all the Christian festivals, the Colombo schools assembled at the Mission-House, to hear a sermon to young people, the interesting contents of the newly-arrived boxes were spread out on tables in our dwelling-house; and the native pupils were allowed to pass round the tables, and inspect that display of the bounty of British females, as they retired from the public service. It was a gratifying scene, indeed, to Mrs. Harvard. The rewards were afterwards equitably divided by her among the several stations; and the individual bestowment of those for the Colombo

schools formed her last public Missionary engagement.\*

\* A memorandum of her visit to one of the schools, found among her papers, may serve as a specimen of her attentions to the whole :—

“Rewards given in the New Bazaar-School, January, 1819.

“1. Dortchee-hamy,—rewarded with a small bag, containing thread, a thimble, and a red needle-book, with the motto, ‘A Present from a Friend.’ She is clever in making lace, reads well, and is very attentive. 2. Dortchee Abe-lies,—a small cotton-box and three balls of cotton. 3. Bat-chee-hamy,—a small bag containing needles in a case, a thimble, and a pincushion. She bears a good character, and is the daughter of the master of the Slave-Island School. 4. Mango,—a small red box, with cotton-balls. She has made progress in needle-work and lace-making, reads the English Testament, and is an attentive girl. 5. Joanna Perara,—a pincushion and housewife. 6. Justina-hamy,—a cotton thread-case. Attentive to her learning. 7. Dortchee Andries,—a cotton thread-case, with thread, thimble, and pins. She works neatly, makes lace, and reads the English Testament. 8. Bemmoë,—a small red bag, and two balls of cotton. She reads the English Testament, makes lace, and works well. 9. Elinchee,—a basket-pincushion, with a flower painted on it. She is a very attentive and good girl; and has made the same proficiency as Nos. 7 and 8. 10. Joanna,—a pincushion, with the motto, ‘A Trifle from England.’ She spells, makes lace, and works at her needle. 11. Leanisa,—a pincushion, with pins. Character the same as No. 10. 12. Isabella,—a cotton thread-case, with thread. She is just beginning to spell English, and works at her needle. 13. Francis Perara,—a needle-case. She is a good girl, spells English, and works at her needle. 14. Manchee-nona,—a pincushion, with pins. She makes lace, spells English, and does needlework. 15. Batchee,—a pincushion. She works and spells. 16. Ann Davidson,—a small yellow bag. She is a European child, eight years of age. Spells, and works at her needle, and is well recommended as a good girl. 17. Mary Davidson,—a cotton pincushion. She is a

A removal from the circle in which she had for four years been moving in Colombo, could not but make manifest the respect, the regard, and the affection by which her spirit and conduct had united her to all with whom she was acquainted.

The parting was kind and memorable with the Archdeacon and family; as also with Governor and Lady Brownrigg, from whom Mrs. H. had received many expressions of friendly consideration. A detachment of invalids being about to return to England, her Ladyship provided Mrs. H. with a nurse from among their wives; and Sir Robert was kindly pleased to issue an order for the transfer of the husband of the nurse from another vessel to ours, that the arrangement might be the more agreeable. The following hasty note contains a natural expression of feeling under such circumstances:—

good little girl; younger sister to Ann. 18. Loochoe,—a thimble. Works at her needle, and is learning the alphabet. 19. Francina, 2d,—a thimble. Makes lace, and is learning to read in her own language. 20. Francina, 3d,—a thimble. Works at her needle, learns Singhalese. 21. Lennoe,—a small bag. 22. Mr. Appleton, the Master. He is an industrious man; and the state of the children does him very great credit. I gave him a penknife. 23. To Mrs. Appleton, the Mistress, I presented a work-box and cottons, winders and thread, and a pair of scissors. 24. To the old lace-woman, a pair of scissors; and, 25. To another woman, who looked very wishfully on, during the distribution, a thimble.

“N. B. All the above scholars were very warmly recommended by the Master and Mistress: they are good girls; some of them under serious impressions; and all who learn English are previously able to read the sacred Scriptures in their own language.

“ELIZABETH HARVARD.”

“Colpetty, Mission-Cottage, January, 1819.—We feel very grateful to your Ladyship and the good Governor for your great kindness to us, in every respect, since our first arrival in the island. I am particularly obliged by this last kindness in providing me with a suitable nurse from among the soldiers’ wives returning to England; and to the kind Governor in giving orders, on my account, that her husband should be put into the party who are to go in our ship. Indeed, I feel it very greatly, and shall ever remember it.

“We shall often think and speak of you, when we are far away; and shall be glad when the time arrives for us to see you in highly-favoured England. May our kind and loving God ever bless your Ladyship and the Governor, and all your family. Please excuse this hasty note. I am too much confused by a sense of your kindness, in so thinking about me, to express myself as I otherwise should wish. I am also rather poorly, and have many things to do in relation to our journey.”

On our way to Galle, for the purpose of embarking, we paid farewell visits to several schools situate on that line of road; and the scene, with some, was very affecting. I was too greatly debilitated to address them. We repeated the Lord’s prayer together; and the pronouncing of the valedictory benediction to the Corinthians, closed, with many, our interviews on earth.

During our stay at Galle, before the vessel was ready for her voyage, Mrs. Harvard and myself resided at the hospitable mansion of Mr. and Mrs. Gibson; whose kindness Mrs. H. had ex-

perienced on first landing in Ceylon, and also on the visit to Galle, in which we were bereaved of our second child; and whose continued regards placed us under continued obligations to them. The day of embarkation put an end to the interchange of farewell regrets and tears. Stronger affection and gratitude could not have been manifested, than that displayed by our beloved Ceylonese friends. May it be our happiness to recommence our friendships on a celestial shore! Amen.

## PART IV.

FROM HER DEPARTURE FROM INDIA UNTIL  
HER DECEASE.

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“ For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”—ST. PAUL.

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Mrs. Fox during her last illness, expressed a wish that Mrs. Harvard should take charge of her only daughter, and deliver her to her friends in England. The little voyager was brought on board for this purpose, just as we were under weigh, by Mr. Fox ; who naturally prolonged to the latest moment the continuance of his beloved child with him. Our dear friend Mr. Clough remained with us till it was necessary for the boat to return to the shore. Mrs. H. had taken an affectionate leave of Mrs. M’Kenny, and of Mrs. Griffiths ; both of them at that time resident at Galle, and the latter in connexion with the Baptist Missionary Society.

On the third day of our voyage the birth of our fourth son took place, and his mother appeared considerably to recover her former tone of mind with returning strength. The attentions of the Commander,\* and of the passengers, on that occasion, cannot but be respectfully remembered. The friendship and skill of Surgeon Barlow, of the Royal Artillery, received our grateful acknow-

\* Captain John Rennoldson, ship Princess Charlotte.

ledgments; and the little stranger was quite a favourite among the seamen, from the circumstance of his having been born on board their ship. Mrs. Harvard soon turned her attention to the situation of some of the soldiers' wives, whose circumstances were similar to those from which she had recovered; and, by her solicitude to contribute to their comfort, evinced the grateful sense she entertained of her own mercies.

After some serious storms in the latitude of the Isle of France, and a providential escape from running on shore near Delagoa Bay, in South Africa, we were safely brought to the Cape of Good Hope. The vessel was becalmed in the midst of a dense fog, which rendered it impossible to see from one end of the deck to the other; and what was our surprise, when the fog cleared away, to find that we were within pistol-shot of the bold and desolate shore of Southern Africa! In our security, under such circumstances, we acknowledged the hand of a superintending Providence; and, in a few hours, the ship was quietly at anchor in Table Bay.

A liberal and respectable individual, in connexion with the London Missionary Society,\* welcomed us to his house; and there Mrs. Harvard had the pleasure to meet her venerable and early friend, the Rev. John Campbell, then about to commence his second journey into the interior of that country. Our own Missionary brother, the Rev. Barnabas Shaw, with his excellent and intrepid wife, happened, at the same time, to be on a visit to Cape Town, on account of ill health. Our little son was baptized George Clough; a me-

\* The Rev. John Melville.



morial of regard to our affectionate and faithful Missionary colleague in Ceylon. The service was performed by the Chaplain, the Rev. Mr. Hough; and our sister Shaw sustained the office of god-mother.

While at Cape Town, Mrs. H. paid a visit to the celebrated Mrs. Smith; a true mother in the Missionary Israel. That aged saint, since deceased, received her with much Christian affection, and, in the spirit of primitive devotion, pronounced a blessing upon her. With several of the members of the London Society's Mission she formed a cordial friendship. And the late noted Africaner, then on a visit from the interior, —formerly a terrifying freebooter, but subsequently converted to the faith of Christ, through the instrumentality of that Society,—particularly attracted her attention. By the means of an interpreter, they were mutually satisfied that they were actuated by the same spirit. The lion, in his character, was indeed converted into the lamb. Not having beheld a ship, or even seen the ocean, but at a distance, Africaner, with his friend the Rev. Mr. Moffat, accompanied us to our vessel, when we embarked, to gratify his natural curiosity. On his leaving the ship in the shore-boat, Mrs. H. pointed with her finger heavenward, as an expression of the hope she felt that they might again meet in glory. The venerable African Chief, understanding her meaning, imitated the signal with glistening eyes.

At length after touching at St. Helena and Ascension, by the goodness of God, we came once more in sight of the beloved shores of our *native land*. Though, at the call of Providence,

we had left it without regret ; yet when providentially returned to it, a good conscience did not deny us the enjoyment arising from the conviction that we were again in "Old England." Mrs. Harvard was exceedingly susceptible of the impression produced by the religious privileges and social comforts of this highly-favoured land. The sincerity with which, on landing, she took up a handful of British earth, and kissed it,—the smile of satisfaction which sat on her countenance as she entered the first circle of friends,—the grateful acknowledgments she paid to the divine Being for the favour of permitting her this return of enjoyment,—so far from placing in a dubious light her Missionary pretensions, served to show how great was the sacrifice which she had been making for the sake of the Heathen ; and over how powerful a susceptibility she had triumphed, in originally leaving a country so much beloved by her, with the hope of advancing their eternal interests.

It was early in the morning of the last Monday in July that we landed at Falmouth ; where we were met and welcomed by many whom the news of our arrival had reached. The female Missionary, and the Indian children, had many a congratulation, and many a blessing ! But we hastened forward to Bristol, where the Conference was at that time assembled. Our progress through that part of England was very gratifying. The reapers and gleaners were engaged in the harvest. We had been so much accustomed either to the dark hue of the Singhalese, or the sickly paleness of the European in an

eastern climate, that the fine rosy cheeks of our own countrymen, as they laboured in the fields, had the effect of novelty upon us ; more so, perhaps, than the universal darkness of the native complexion on our arrival in India.

On reaching Bristol, we were received in a most parental manner by our respected and beloved friends, the late Rev. Walter Griffith, and Mrs. Griffith ; we also experienced much kindness from the late Rev. T. Wood and Mrs. Wood, then resident in that place ; as well as from the Ministers who were present at the Conference, and such of their esteemed wives as had accompanied them. To them, and to numerous other ladies, both visiters and residents at Bristol, Mrs. Harvard had the pleasure to make many communications in relation to the *female* departments of our Mission, on subjects best explained and appreciated by the ladies themselves.\* On these points she delighted to be communicative. It was thus evident that her attachment to Missionary interests in general, and those of the Ceylon Mission, and her own department of it in particular, was a feeling deeply rooted in her heart, and not likely to be soon removed.

Several of the pious and catholic among the Society of Friends kindly displayed an interest in her statements, and pressed her with invita-

\* Mrs. Harvard brought home with her a small collection of native needle-work, hastily obtained from two of the schools ; a few samplers, two pieces of lace, &c., &c. ; which she used to manifest peculiar pleasure in showing to the friends of these institutions.

tions to visit them. And her small collection of native needle-work gave a *visibility* to our Ceylon Missionary female establishments, which, it is hoped, has been subservient to their welfare. In all these engagements, it is not too much to say, that the spirit she breathed was not the least among the objects of admiration to her numerous friends.

Our arrival in this country having taken place after most of the stations had been fixed, the Deal Circuit, in Kent, became my first appointment, and the Rev. Samuel Brown kindly engaged to afford it a supply, while we embraced the opportunity of seeing our families and a few of our more immediate friends. With the former, the interviews were of course affecting and gratifying. Mrs. Harvard had lost a brother in her absence; but the family loss was the individual gain. To her parents, it was matter of thankfulness to behold her so greatly restored, after so many dangerous illnesses; and, after so many changes, returning home with the same piety, humility, and affection. The opportunities which her return to England gave her of personal intercourse and communion with the several members of her family and mine, she diligently embraced; and all were edified by their sense of her deep concern for their eternal salvation.

On paying a visit to our dear friends, the Rev. Isaac Bradnack and Mrs. Bradnack, at Spilsby, in Lincolnshire, we arranged to be present at their Anniversary Missionary Meeting. At Raithby-Hall she was received with many expressions of friendly regard by Mrs. Bracken-

bury; \* by Mrs. Abbott, at Aswardby; Mrs. Bourne, at Alford; and many other kindest of friends. These were circumstances not at all calculated to detach her from the endearments of this happy country. Yet, after having been present at the public Missionary Meeting at Spilsby, her heart and soul were so affected with the genuine ardour of the undertaking, that she nobly declared, that if my state of health had permitted it, she would have been happy to embark in the foreign work again on the very next day! It was the first public Missionary Meeting Mrs. Harvard had ever attended. It would indeed be a matter of surprise if even an *anti-Mission spirit* could retain its apathy with respect to the millions yet in pagan darkness, after hearing the communications usually made at these excellent and useful meetings.

From Spilsby, Mrs. Harvard accompanied me to Lincoln, Leeds, Bradford, and Wakefield; in each of which places she acted in the same true spirit of a Missionary agent, as at Bristol, and with the same results. It would be presuming too much to pretend to enumerate all the friends who exercised the offices of kindness to her, as she pursued her route; otherwise gratitude would

\* To Mrs. Brackenbury Mrs. Harvard made a present of one of her scarce pieces of native sampler, in token of her admiration of the Missionary feeling which she rejoiced to see cherished at the Hall. To Mrs. Bradnack she presented an infant's cap, worked by one of the little native girls, to whom she had herself taught that kind of needle-work. And to several of our Ministers' wives, as well as other ladies, she gave memorials of various kinds; being in each case impelled by a Missionary motive.

fain be allowed the indulgence of such an expression. At Lincoln we resided with Mr. and Mrs. Mawer; at Leeds, with Mr. and Mrs. Stocks; at Bradford; with Mr. and Mrs. Fawcett; and at Wakefield, with Mr. and Miss Walton. Bradford being the residence of Mr. Clough's family, Mrs. H. was happy in having that opportunity of visiting his affectionate mother and sisters, and of affording to them the various species of information in relation to him, which it was natural they should desire.

The following was written a short time after her arrival at our first English station. It was the expression of her feelings, when, as yet, but partially known to the several kind friends who were awaiting the occurrence of some favourable opportunity of cultivating her acquaintance. Such an interval of strangeness,—often a source of mutual pain, on the part of the people, as well as on that of our Ministers and their families,—is one of the inconveniencies of our plan of itinerancy. But this inconvenience is so plentifully counterbalanced by other more weighty advantages, that it may be the more cheerfully endured on that account. It will be seen how readily her mind became accommodated to her circumstances, and how generously prepared she was to sustain the amicable and affectionate relations of friendship towards those who might move in the circle in which she persuaded herself she had been providentially placed.

## TO HER PARENTS.

“Deal, November 23d, 1819.—I hope, when more used to the friends here, I shall feel more at home. I am longing to see you all again already, although I have only been absent from you a few days. I could have wished our first station, on coming back to England, had been a little nearer to you. But why such a wish? We are, I trust, where the Lord would have us to be. O that we may be made useful here! Few of our people in this place are very rich; but we have, however, much real piety among them. I hope to get good myself, and to be enabled to do good. ‘What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits?’”

During our residence at Deal, an encouraging revival of religion took place within our borders. Many were brought out of darkness into God’s marvellous light. Among the young people there was an especial work of conversion. These animating results of the preaching of the Gospel were preceded by a deepening and maturing of the religious feeling in several who had long sustained the Christian profession. The invaluable blessing of entire sanctification was beheld by them as their Gospel privilege, and by several it was earnestly and believingly sought for, and by some happily enjoyed.

Mrs. Harvard imbibed the same feeling; and her zeal and simplicity experienced no diminution from the possession of this great gift. There her public spirit was again called into action. Nothing seemed to afford her so much comfort as

to behold the cause of religion in a prospering condition; and it was one of her most agreeable employments to render assistance to those who were sincerely desirous of securing the salvation of their souls. By this means she laid the foundation of the most lasting friendships; and her memory will long be cherished in that part of the country.

The air of Deal, however, was much too sharp for her greatly relaxed frame, and proved a source of frequent attacks of indisposition. The cold easterly winds, so prevalent in that direction, often rendered her a prisoner to the house: and the consequent debility to which she became subject was sometimes productive of those distressing mental exercises which she first experienced in India. But even under this trial, and others through which she was called to pass, she experienced the supports and consolations of religion; and if in some seasons her amiable spirit was painfully exercised and depressed, there were others in which she could boldly say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear." Under these circumstances, it became my duty to request a removal from that station at the end of two years. The following extracts have been made from \*her diary and correspondence while we resided there:—

"Deal, Wednesday, January 19th, 1820.—In surveying the mercies of God towards me, what abundant reason have I to be thankful! I can say with truth, I was brought low, and he helped me. Surely I ought to record his goodness to



me and mine. 'Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, praise his holy name.'

"The Lord deepens his gracious work in my soul; yet I feel greatly distressed very often with the harassing suggestions of my grand enemy; that cruel and relentless foe, who would fain rob me of my confidence in the Saviour; and aims to make me conclude that it is all a cunningly devised fable. Sometimes it appears as much as I can do to keep my ground. But the Lord is my strength. In him, I am thankful to say, I gain the victory; and, by the teachings of his Spirit, am enabled to see whence proceed these distressing thoughts. Jesus has done too much for me, (and, praised be his name, too much within me,) for me to doubt; excepting when I lose sight of him and his work. This I bring to remembrance; and therefore I have hope."

#### TO HER SISTER M— A—.

"Deal, January 21st, 1821.—It rejoiced us to hear that you were standing fast in that happy measure of liberty, wherewith Christ had made you free; and that you were seeking the greater blessing,—to 'love the Lord with all your heart,' to have your whole heart given up to him. This latter is necessary in order to the former; and then, O blessed truth! He will come into your heart, and fill you with his love. This is what Mr. Wesley calls 'the heaven of heavens.' It is a heaven upon earth; and the only true source of meetness for the heaven above. When your

soul is filled with love, your mouth will be full of praise.

‘ Whate’er in me seems wise or good,  
Or strong, I here disclaim ;  
I wash my garments in the blood  
Of the atoning Lamb ! ’ ”

### TO HER SISTER SUSAN.

“ Deal, April 29th, 1821.—It gives me delight that my dear Susan is making some advances in the divine life, and that my poor letters have been in any measure helpful to her. All the glory I give to God : it is justly his due ; for, ‘ by the grace of God I am what I am ; ’ and without his daily supplies of grace, I should not stand my own ground.

“ Last Friday night I was much blessed at our prayer-meeting. The Lord was with us. I felt Christ to be my ‘ all and in all.’ How sweet it is to have a glimpse of his love in his earthly courts ! What then will be the fulness of the manifestation and enjoyment, when, face to face, we shall ‘ see him as he is ! ’ Ah, my dear Susan, then there will be fulness of joy indeed, and pleasures for evermore. Well, let us press forwards, towards the mark, and keep the prize in view.

“ I am glad you liked the little cap, &c., and am waiting to hear of the arrival of the little stranger who is to use them. May the divine blessing descend and remain on the parents and the child ; and may they have grace to train it up for heaven.”

Our next station was Colchester, in Essex. Being upwards of twenty miles nearer her family connexions, her removal to this Circuit was a very desirable change to Mrs. Harvard; though it, nevertheless, proved too cold a residence for her. The consequences of this circumstance were frequently the same as in our previous Circuit. But it is not improbable that all this parental discipline, however repugnant to our short-sighted views of a heavenly Father's love, may have been the intended subserviencies to her bliss in that Father's house above. What he does for us, even in his tenderest mercies, now, we cannot fully know, but we shall "know hereafter."

Our fifth son was born on the 12th of August; and, as an expression of her love to the brother by whom some of her letters have been preserved, the child was named Stephen Parks. Unhappily on our journey to our new Circuit Mrs. Harvard caught cold, and thus laid the foundation of an illness, which proved to be but the forerunner of other disorders. She thus writes:—

### TO HER FATHER.

"Colchester, December 6th, 1821.—To-day I have been to chapel for the first time these six weeks. I have been a prisoner of the Lord's: and trust I have not in this affliction lost any thing, but the tin and the dross. It is a mercy when all our pains and aches lead us to the Saviour. No affliction is joyous: but if it yield the peaceable fruits of righteousness, it is well; and I trust this has been my case. I can also say again, 'It is good to be afflicted.' It is all

in mercy that he has again laid his hand upon me; and when he sees fit, if it be his will, he will again restore me to my dear husband and children, who lie very near my heart. The dear children will need a mother's care. Sometimes I look at them, and feel much at the idea of being taken from them. But I am thankful I am better, and begin to get among my family again. I think my complaint has arisen from cold taken on my journey to this place. It seems so deeply rooted, that it must be some time before I fully recover from it. But bless God I have strength according to my day. And our friends here have been very kind to me in my illness.

"The medical gentleman ordered me to wean my dear babe; but I begged he would give me some bark, that I might try if that would not enable me to perform a mother's part to my dear little Stephen: and I desire to bless God that the bark, with nourishing living, have had the desired effect; and though still weak, my strength is increased.

"By the blessing of God, I hope I shall be spared to praise his holy name. I have been much blessed these last few days, though much tried by the enemy of souls. But I find my approaches to the throne of grace very sweet. The Lord does bless me by drawing graciously near to me whenever I endeavour to draw near to him."

While at Colchester, her eyes beheld with joy the animating effects which attended the Gospel ministry in that town and Circuit. The Preachers themselves did not feel a more lively interest

than she did in the success with which their labours were encouraged.\* It was not uncommon for persons to visit us at our house, under great concern for their eternal interests; and the peculiar expression of her countenance, when the door was opened on such an occasion, evinced that her whole heart and soul bade them a welcome within our walls, and that the visit of a monarch could not have been more agreeable to her. Rich or poor, old or young,—all were equally welcome when they came on a religious errand; and if Mr. Rowe and myself happened to be from home at such times, she would most tenderly enter into their case, and advise and pray with them, with all the affectionate solicitude of a mother in Israel.

But there were peculiar cases, in the treatment of which she was often especially successful. The painful exercises of her own mind had given her "the tongue of the learned, to speak a word in season" to those who were in depressions from similar causes. In Colchester there were a few who sometimes found relief in communications with her on such subjects; and her comforting remarks to others were frequently a means of encouragement to herself. To a kind friend at Deal, who had one day been telling her some of the severe conflicts of her Christian life, she re-

\* At this time she was in the habit of meeting weekly a company of young persons who had been brought under religious impressions. The usual hour was three o'clock on a Wednesday afternoon. One of her class-papers, now lying before me, contains twenty-eight names. Some of them were very young. Some have since relapsed into their previous state of mind: others continue to "run the race which is set before" them, "looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of their faith."

marked, "Well, these are frequent causes of sorrow to us now ; but if they keep us near to the Saviour, it will hereafter be said of us, ' These are they which have come out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. *Therefore* are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple.' "

After a sympathizing conversation at another time with the same friend, on some painful exercises of mind, which required her advice and direction, she added, " Now let us hear what the Lord says to us in such a case ; " and then, with unaffected simplicity, reaching her small pocket Bible, she read to her Christian visiter the fourteenth chapter of St. John, " Let not your hearts be troubled," &c. In this department she excelled ; and she loved to embrace every means of comforting those who were cast down, by the same comfort wherewith she herself had been comforted of God.

Owing to her frequent indisposition, and the active employment on which she entered with every return of health and spirits, she did not write much in her diary. The following only remains of that species of record :—

" Colchester, January 28th, 1822.—These last few days my mind has been much harassed by the enemy ; yet, I praise God, he has been with me.

' Satan and sin are always near ;  
Thee may I always nearer feel.'

On Sunday I was much blessed in reading his word, and in endeavouring to explain it to our servant.

My soul burned with love to my Saviour and God. Owing to the sickness of my children, I was prevented from enjoying the advantages of the public means of grace ; but the Lord, who is never confined to places, was graciously present with me.

“January 30th.—Perhaps I have given way too much to the harassing train of thought with which I am so often assailed and depressed. I was again under a cloud ; but this afternoon, while meeting the dear children, the Lord again manifested his smiling face, and made my soul happy in his love. Bless the Lord, he is at work, I trust, in my heart, and in the heart of my dear husband, and in the hearts of our Society. The Lord is at work, and I hope to see glorious times in this place. Many have been brought to God during this last week. Several have found him to be a pardoning God, to the joy of their hearts. Praise the Lord!

‘ O Jesus, ride on, till all are subdued.’

There are some persons in distress of soul, now in the vestry. A few of our friends are praying with them. May the spirit of supplication and faith be poured out upon them ! I hope the Lord will bless them before they leave.”

“Sunday, April 21st.—How much have I to be thankful for, when I take a view of the divine goodness to me, the unworthiest of all ! The Lord has recently blessed me very greatly. And though I have been much tried by the enemy of my soul, yet the Lord has given me his timely aid ; for which I desire to bless his holy

name. I have felt an unusual degree of his love in my heart. 'The little leaven has been indeed leavening the whole lump.' And, glory to God, I still feel it; notwithstanding the old enemy has been striving to rob me of my peace. But the Lord is my strength and my all in all. I was much blessed this morning while listening to a sermon on the subject of entire sanctification. I see and feel it to be a blessed subject. 'The heaven of heavens is love.' This is truly 'full redemption.' I think I never saw it so clearly before, as while the Preacher was explaining its nature and the manner in which it is to be attained. I bless God, I believe I did feel a measure of it, and do at this moment. My prayer to the Great Author of this good and perfect gift is,—

' More and more thyself display,  
Shining to the perfect day.'

I have been to see our greatly afflicted sister B., and found it very useful to myself to converse and pray with her. I am now going to visit two more sick women. The Lord give me a word for them."

To this may be added an extract from her correspondence with Mrs. S., one of our kind friends at Deal, expressive of her lively interest in the prosperity of the Redeemer's kingdom.

" Colchester, February 4th, 1822.—How often have I been blessed while conversing with you and dear Mr. S. in your small parlour! Truly, at such times, God hath been with us. Praised be his name! Though then I had to pass through deep waters, owing to the enemy of souls; and



was oftentimes in heaviness through manifold temptations ; yet I found grace sufficient for me. Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, praise his holy name.

"Since I parted with you, O, how much reason have I had to praise God! When I think of his goodness, I know not where to begin to praise him. On leaving Deal, I was perfectly ignorant of my dear sister Eliza's death : nor did I hear of it for a week after.\* Dear girl ! I felt much :

\* Mrs. Harvard here refers to one of my own sisters, an amiable and interesting young person ; who died rather suddenly on her journey to London from Deal, where she had been paying us a visit.

Our beloved Eliza Janette, having been the subject of religious impressions from earliest childhood, appears to have become decidedly devout in the eleventh year of her age ; when, at her own request, she was permitted to meet in class with Mrs. Bruce, at that time of Aldersgate-street, London. For this valued lady she ever retained a strong and grateful affection ; and the privileges arising from an acquaintance with her were rendered of important service to her best interests.

After feeling her need of a personal and saving interest in the death of Christ, she sought with earnestness that power of the Holy Spirit by which we are enabled to believe unto salvation. While attending the Penitent Meeting at City-Road chapel one Saturday evening, the Lord graciously spoke peace to her soul. The Rev. Mr. Whitehouse, a Missionary, about to proceed to a foreign station, delivered the exhortation at that service ; and it pleased God to make the word the medium of settled consolation to her troubled spirit. Her subsequent deportment was uniformly consistent. I do not remember that she ever caused me a moment's pain in her whole life ; and she was beloved by all to whom she was known.

At the Midsummer of 1821, her health having been seriously injured, originally through over-exertion in walking a very warm day, she accepted our earnest invitation to a few weeks with us at Deal ; and though it was a diminution of our comfort to find her constitution so

but our loss, I have no doubt, is her gain. Among her papers we have found some very interesting things. She was in general very reserved ; seldom speaking of her own experience

much undermined, yet, in the interval of her residence with us, we had the most gratifying evidences that her heart and treasure were laid up in heaven. At length she became anxious to return to London, and I accompanied her to the coach. She seemed to possess all her usual cheerfulness and vivacity ; and, in answer to an inquiry, observed, that she continued to enjoy " peace with God," and was ardently seeking for the experience of all " that mind which was in Christ Jesus."

Far distant as was the expectation from herself, and from all our family, the motion of the coach so considerably increased the unfavourable symptoms, that she could prosecute her journey no further than Canterbury, a distance of about eighteen miles ; where, at the house of a kind friend, she fell into a state of stupor, which concluded her earthly course. In that city she lies interred ; and as, nine years before, she had been at a boarding-school there, and was known to several of the young friends, the Rev. James Methley kindly improved the circumstance of her early death, in a sermon from Proverbs xii. 28.

Mrs. Parnell, one of our judicious and truly excellent friends, and a Leader in that place, preserved the following minute of a conversation with my sister, when, during a short friendly call, she was taken ill at her house:—" Seeing Miss Harvard appeared very ill, I observed to her, ' Though, my dear, you are young in years, yet you have been for some time the subject of affliction.' I asked her age, and she informed me it was eighteen years. I said, ' Have you found the Lord to be a present help and support in the time of trouble ?' She replied, ' Yes : I have.' I said, ' Can you now look to him as your Father and your Friend ?' She said, ' I can.' I replied, ' Your present illness, on your journey, and far from your relatives, is trying: do you feel resigned in this respect ?' With a sweet placid smile she replied, ' I do,' then fell into a dose ;" and expired soon after being removed to the house of the friend with whom she was staying.

to any one, but in answer to some direct inquiry. But we have the most satisfactory evidence of her conversion to God. I believe she was truly pious; and, though she said but little, she had deep union and communion with God her heavenly Father. Her treasure was in heaven, and she now is there,—

‘ Far from a world of grief and sin,  
With God eternally shut in.’

Now, not a wave of trouble rolls across her peaceful breast: all tears are wiped away for ever from her eyes. May we follow her, as she followed Christ!

“ Our last boy is a sweet child. I hope your children are well; that they mind what their father and mother say to them; and that they pray to God. If they do, God will love them, and give them a place in heaven by and by. Tell them Mrs. Harvard says so, and she loves them. May they be a blessing to you, dear friends, and become useful members in the church of God.

“ O that our children may be precious in the sight of God! Nothing on his part will be wanting. If we are but faithful to our charge, they will become the subjects of his grace. You have three, and we have now the same number. The Lord give us wisdom, in all things, concerning them. My charge is a great one; and I feel it more than ever I did. The care of souls involves a great responsibility; and the souls of my children are very dear to me. O for grace to train them up in the way they should go!”

This reference to her children brings afresh to

my recollection, with how much of the character of a judicious and truly Christian parent she was in the habit of discharging her duty towards them. Directing their amusements, reconciling their differences, repressing their rising evils, cherishing their better affections, teaching them to pray, and, according to their capacities, instilling the various truths of our holy religion into their tender minds,—were all objects which engaged her ever-watchful solicitude. May it please God that the seeds thus early sown, and by so endeared a hand, may ever be followed by his blessing on them in their future life ! Amen.

In writing to the same friend, she proceeds :—

“ Colchester, March 24th, 1822.—I cannot conclude without telling you that since the commencement of this year, the Lord has been more especially pouring out his Spirit in a powerful manner among us. In one week nearly twenty persons were seeking for mercy ; and most of them found peace with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Seven obtained the blessing at one prayer-meeting, which continued until twelve o'clock. The next morning a young man was brought to our house in great distress of soul ; and, before he left, he found relief, and went home rejoicing in God. Who would not strive to bring souls to Him who hath said, ‘ Him that cometh unto me, I will in no wise cast out ! ’

“ Colchester, April 7th.—At a country place, about six miles from hence, during a sermon to young people, the Lord poured out his Spirit in so wonderful a manner that I understand nearly thirty, chiefly young persons, were deeply affect

at once! It was such a time as will not easily be forgotten. We have just had our Quarterly Meeting. It was a very pleasing one. I am happy to inform you that a good number have been received on trial, as members of our Society, in the last three months. Bless the Lord! May they all have grace to stand their ground, steadfast in the faith. May none of them turn back again to sin and folly. You see by this that the Lord is truly at work among us. O that he may go on! He will, even in our days, if our faith fail not.

“But I must now turn to dear Deal; the place in which the Lord blessed my own soul so much. I shall ever feel an affection for it and Sandwich. May God ever be gracious to all our dear friends in those places. I trust he is still working among you. When you write, let us know all the good news you can about our old friends. Though absent in body, we feel we are still one with you in the Lord; and, if faithful to the grace given, we shall all again meet together around the throne of our heavenly Father, to praise him through one eternal day. Lord, help us so to run as that we may obtain the glorious prize! Remember me to all; and particularly to Mr. and Mrs. Pembroke, and the dear young people under his care, as well as the young friends in general.”

In September, Mrs. Harvard accompanied me to a Missionary Meeting at Manningtree; and, during this little excursion, her Missionary zeal was put to the test, by a proposal to engage again in the foreign work. Notwithstanding all that she had suffered, and continued to suffer, from the effects of a warm climate, her attachment to the

good cause remained unextinguishable. In a conversation with our venerable father, the Rev. Walter Griffith, and the Rev. Richard Watson, one of the General Missionary Secretaries, (both since deceased,) she expressed herself as perfectly willing to accompany me to any station to which I might be appointed; and, on the intended Mission to Malta being mentioned, she had the honour, as in the Asiatic Mission, to be the first female volunteer in the undertaking. With what degree of sincerity will appear from an extract of a letter to her friendly correspondent at Deal:—

“Colchester, Sept. 22d, 1822.—I hope to hear from you soon;—soon, I say, as we have some thoughts we shall go abroad again. If so, and we go through the Downs, we will strive to come on shore and see you. Pray for us, that the Lord may direct us. I hope you are, in all respects, doing well, and that you and your husband are still growing in grace. May Jesus be more precious to you than ever. I bless God for what he has done for me, and is still doing. I saw several of our Deal friends in London at the Conference, and I should have liked much to have seen you. So, poor Mr. C. is gone; not long after his good wife. Well; they have both met again to part no more. When you write, give me all the news you can. Kind love to all the dear Deal and Sandwich friends.”

Her spirit was truly catholic. At Colchester she was favoured with the friendly regards of several, both in the communion of the established Church, and among the Dissenters. She loved all the public Institutions which have been formed

for the dissemination of divine truth. The Bible Society was, perhaps, one of her greatest favourites ; as well from the catholicism of its principles, as from a consideration of the essential aid afforded by it to the Missionary cause. She continued a regular subscriber to its funds ; and when visited by its amiable collectors, though of a religious denomination distinct from her own, in such company she seemed to forget her own natural reserve, in the readiness of spirit she manifested to unite in the work of Christ with all them that love him in sincerity.

A very painful accident having confined her father to his room, she paid a visit to London, in the autumn, for the purpose of seeing and comforting him in his affliction. During this visit, her spirituality of mind was very evident to all who conversed with her. This was indeed a great consolation to her suffering parent, who, in his seclusion from active life, enjoyed frequent seasons of the sweetest Christian communion in her society. Her three married sisters meeting her at her father's house one day, she contrived to have them all in a room by themselves ; and they had an affecting and edifying opportunity of conversation on the things of God. No one of the affectionate party anticipated that it would be a final interview ; yet such it was : but her habitual piety gave to it that hallowed character which most Christians, could they foresee the nearness of their departure from this world, would wish to stamp on their last meeting with beloved friends.

Shortly after her return home, the Anniversary of the Colchester and East Essex Bible Society occurred. It was not my intention to attend a public meeting on that occasion ; but in consequence

of a strong remonstrance from Mrs. H., seconded by my colleague, I felt it a duty to alter my plan, and take up my cross, though this, owing to unavoidable country engagements, laid me under the necessity of more than ordinary exertion. The incessant rains to which I was at that time exposed brought on an intermittent fever, which held me in distressing bondage for nearly a year. During the first five months of my affliction I enjoyed the sympathy and attentions of my dear wife; being scarcely able to leave the house the whole time: and her character was never more truly valuable than in that almost closing scene of her useful life.

In the following extract from one of her last letters to her father, in which her filial and Christian temper is strikingly displayed, as well as her talent in comforting the disconsolate, she apprizes him that her state of health had been somewhat impaired, though no immediate danger was apprehended:—

“Colchester, December 18th, 1822.—Well, my dear father, you know it is the Lord who has laid his hand upon you, and he loves you. Of this you have had many proofs. And you love him. To my own knowledge you have long loved him; and I am sure you would not grieve him by hard thoughts of his dealings towards you. It is a mercy you have been kept from murmuring, in this long and very painful affliction. Thus far the Lord hath been with you, and he will not now leave you. No; the Lord will give strength and power unto his people. Blessed be God!

“Yet, dear father, we have felt greatly for you,



and still feel. Your suffering has been great, and your confinement long. It is all very painful, and the enemy, without doubt, endeavours to give a distressing colouring to every surrounding scene. Notwithstanding all, look up to the Lord for brighter prospects and better days. Satan may try you; destroy you he cannot. Jesus, your Advocate, is above. You are his, and he is yours.

‘He ever lives above,  
For you to intercede;  
His all-redeeming love,  
His precious blood to plead;  
His blood atoned for all our race,  
And sprinkles now the throne of grace.’

So, dearest father, take courage. Be not dismayed by the enemy of souls. By looking unto Jesus, you have often conquered him; and using the same means, you will still come off more than conqueror. Our hope is Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever.

“I am sorry to hear dear mother has been poorly, and am thankful she is better. I wonder she has been able to bear up under her fatigue. Often have I wished we had been nearer, that I might have rendered her some small assistance; or at least have seen you, every now and then. But I am myself quite the invalid, from the anxiety and fatigue I had in my dear W.’s illness. Notwithstanding I desire to bless God, his affliction was a very merciful one. Though painful to him, yet it has been sanctified to us both, I trust.

“I suppose you will all be together on Christmas-day; and I should greatly like to be with you. We shall think of you, and I dare say you will of us. It is now many years since I

last took dinner on Christmas-day with my dear parents and family. When we shall again, the Lord only knows. This we leave to Him. May you all have 'a happy Christmas;' and enjoy the presence of Him, who on that day visited our world to live, and suffer, and die for us; but who is now seated at the right hand of God for us. The Lord bless you."

On the Christmas-day to which Mrs. H. refers, she accompanied me to hear the Rev. W. Marsh, at St. Peter's church; and found the service very profitable. It was the last time we had the pleasure of going to "the house of God in company." In a few days a relapse confined me to the house, until the painful dispensations of an all-wise Providence removed her to her heavenly home. The mournful event took place early in the morning of the fifth of March, 1823.

From the retiredness of her disposition, a correct estimate of her could only be formed through the medium of an intimate friendship. And this especially after her return from India. A tropical climate had imposed on her a daily burden, which, though generally well sustained by her excellent spirit, sometimes rendered her very unequal to the activities of life. I feel it but an act of justice to express how greatly, under God, I have ever been indebted to her. In every respect, she did me good, and not evil, all the days of her life. And, to the praise of divine grace, I rejoice to bear testimony, that, in an intimate acquaintance of twenty-three years,—during more than nine of which we were seldom a week absent from each other,—I never knew her to do an intentional wrong.

The varied excellencies of her character shone with an unobscured lustre, until she had finished her earthly course. Her domestic virtues, her strong relative affection, her unaffected piety and simplicity, her complete resignation to the divine will, were, by the grace of God, still as conspicuous as ever. And to the last she cherished a lively interest in the welfare of Zion and the salvation of souls. "Blessed is that servant whom his Lord, when he cometh, shall find so doing."

It has been observed, that there were occasional intervals of severe spiritual exercise, combined with great nervous debility, in which Mrs. Harvard was not entirely free from painful apprehensions of death. To her friends, however, it was exceedingly consoling to observe with what confidence and composure she was favoured in her transition from earth to heaven. In the final moment no gloomy cloud was suffered to interpose between her soul and the glorious objects of her faith and hope. Her Lord was present with her. His grace was sufficient for her in the latest extremity. In passing through the valley of the shadow of death, she feared no evil.

Her beloved remains were interred in the burial-ground of St. Nicholas's church, Colchester, and the spot is distinguished by a suitable epitaph. Her unexpected death excited a very general feeling throughout that part of the country. Many mourned the event; and the funeral services were numerously attended, very affecting, and, I trust, truly beneficial to many.

The concluding paragraphs, which contain a brief mention of the circumstances of Mrs. Harvard's death, with a summary of her Christian

character, are extracted from an interesting obituary,\* kindly prepared for the funeral service, by my sympathizing and esteemed brother and friend, the Rev. T. Rowe, who spent in our family the two years of his residence at Colchester.

“The succession of so many afflictions, operating on a constitution naturally feeble, at length brought her to an early grave. But her death, though sudden, was safe. The attentions of her female friends, who remained with her during her short and final illness, she received with a grateful heart; and the pious conversation of Mrs. Marsh, the wife of the excellent Vicar of St. Peter’s, in this town, who kindly visited her, was a source of peculiar consolation to her mind. She several times quoted the following text of Scripture, ‘The Lord is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him.’ She was almost constantly engaged in prayer; and said, ‘He hath done all things well. I feel that Christ is precious, and therefore I may well bear my pain.’ Spasms in the chest soon came on, and produced suffocation. She had just time to say, ‘I am dying; take care of my dear babes!’ and, glancing an affectionate look at her beloved husband, expired.

“To great simplicity, humility, and purity of mind, Mrs. Harvard united the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit. Her disposition, though retired, was amiable and sympathizing. As a child, a wife, and a mother, she was dutiful, kind, and affectionate; entering most fully into all the duties, joys, and sorrows, of these relations. As a Christian, her piety was solid, but not showy.

\* See Wesleyan-Methodist-Magazine, for October, 1823, p. 701.

The varied excellence with an unobscured lustre in her earthly course. In strong relative affect and simplicity, her confidence in the divine will, were, by the same, conspicuous as ever. It was a lively interest in the salvation of souls, for whom his Lord, was doing."

It has been observed that occasional intervals of repose combined with great activity. Harvard was not conscious of death, and his confidence and confidence and confidence transition from moment to moment no gloom between her sorrow and faith and hope. His grace was in extremity. In the shadow of death.

Her belief in the burial-ground and the spirit. Her uncertainty. feeling the mourned numerous truly be. The of d's



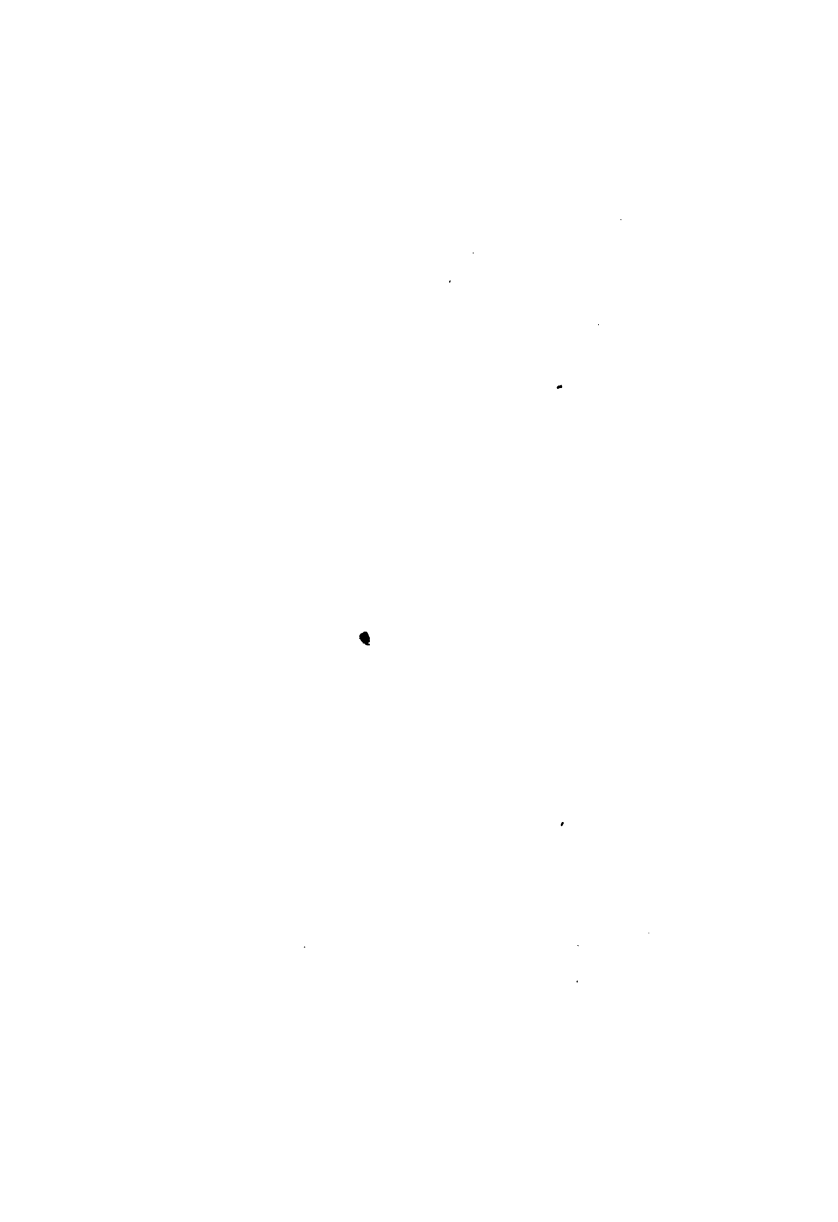
The peculiar doctrines of our most holy religion she most cordially received. Although frequently distressed and tempted, her walk was steady and consistent. And her life was a satisfactory comment on her profession."

The following is a copy of the inscription upon her tomb:—

HERE LIE  
THE MORTAL REMAINS OF  
ELIZABETH,  
WIFE OF W. M. HARVARD,  
LATE A WESLEYAN MISSIONARY  
TO CEYLON AND INDIA.  
SHE DIED MARCH 5TH, 1823,  
AGED 34.

IN HER WERE UNITED, BY DIVINE GRACE,  
TO A SCRIPTURAL FAITH,  
A RENOVATING AND COMFORTING EXPERIENCE  
OF THE GOSPEL,  
AND AN HABITUAL OBSERVANCE OF ITS PRECEPTS.  
IN LIFE SHE WAS UNIFORMLY ESTEEMED,  
AND IN DEATH SINCERELY AND DEEPLY LAMENTED.

"BUT SHALL WE MOURN TO SEE  
OUR FELLOW-PRISONER FREE?  
FREE FROM DOUBTS, AND GRIEFS, AND FEARS,  
IN THE HAVEN OF THE SKIES!  
CAN WE WEEP TO SEE THE TEARS  
WIPED FOR EVER FROM HER EYES?  
NO, DEAR COMPANION, NO:  
WE GLADLY LET THEE GO,  
FROM A SUFFERING CHURCH BENEATH,  
TO A REIGNING CHURCH ABOVE:  
THOU HAST MORE THAN CONQUER'D DEATH:  
THOU ART CROWN'D WITH LIFE AND LOVE."







5.

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